# RIDE.338 OVERLAPPING WISHES!!

THOSE GUYS WANT TO SHAKE US OFF!!

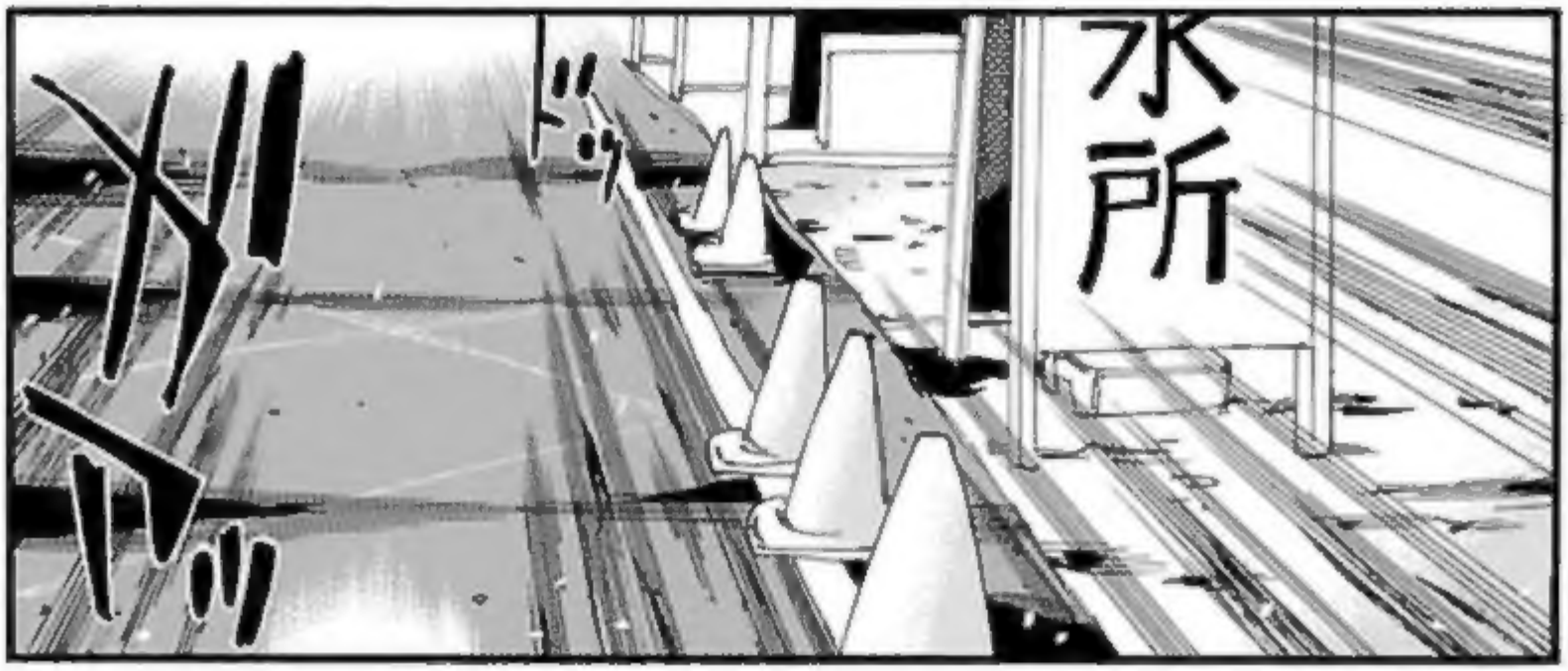
I WON'T LET 'EM!!

ASHIKIBA, LET'S PUT A DECISIVE DISTANCE BETWEEN US AND THEM HERE AND NOW!!

YEAH!!

# RIDE.338 OVERLAPPING WISHES!!

Ace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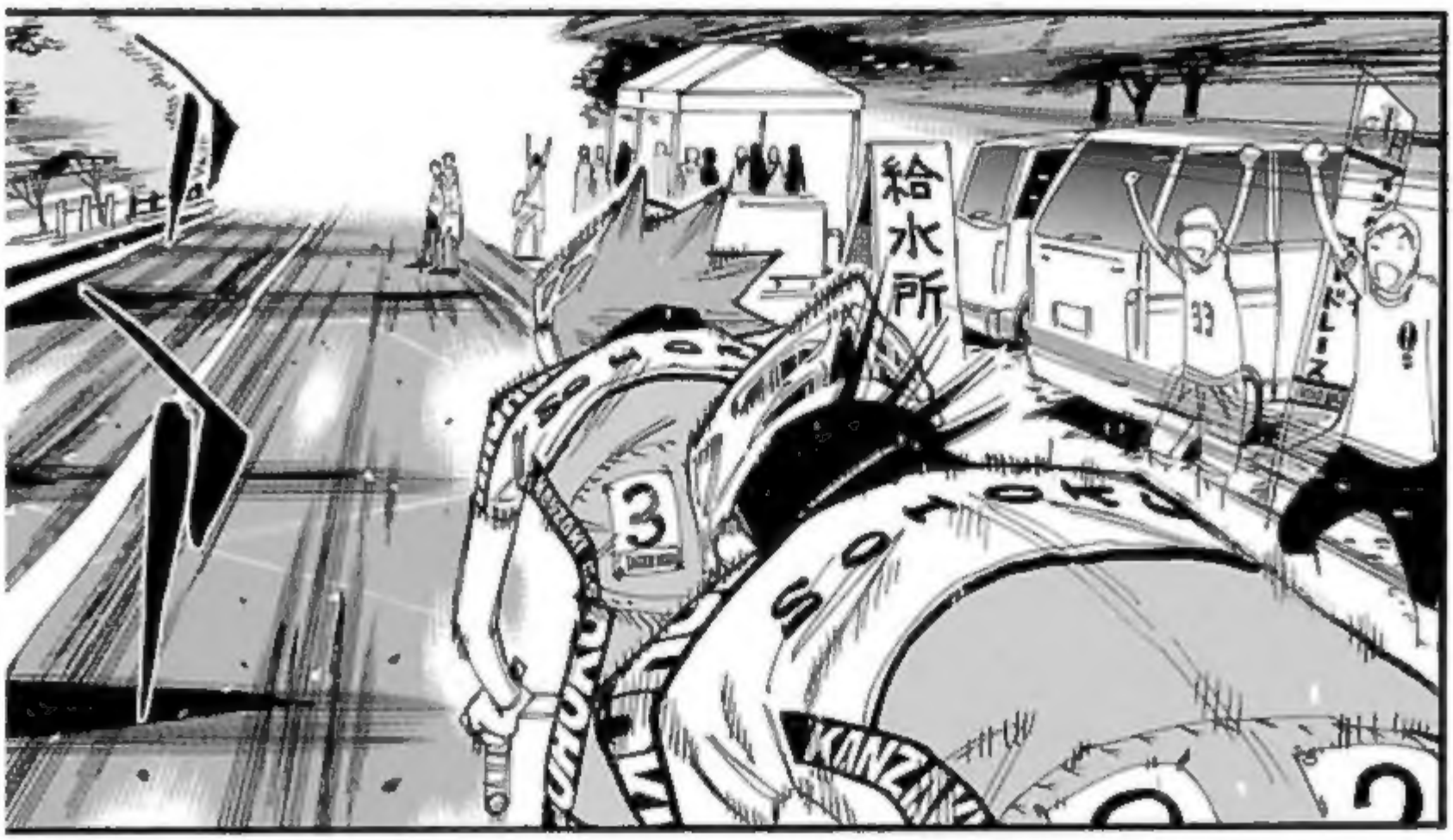
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SOTOKU
KANZAKI

NARU-
KOO!!
IMAI-
ZUMII
!!

JUST THE BOTTLE !!

I'M FINE WITH JUST THE BOTTLE !!

IMAIZUMI, NARUKO, DO YOUR BEST--!!

GOOO!! SOU-HOKUU!!

IMAI-ZUMIIIII --!!

SOUHOKU

DON'T WORRY.

YOUR VOICE IS TOO LOUD, SUGIMOTO.

I CAN HEAR YOU JUST FINE.

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高校

TAKE THE GOAL!!

DEFI-NITELY

WE WILL

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GOOOO!

WA AA!

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DO YOUR BEST --!!

BBQ

IMAI-ZUMI...

I CAN BE PROUD OF MY CURRENT SELF

I DON'T HAVE ANY REGRETS

RIDE YOUR HARD-EST, IMAIZU-MI!!

JUST LEAVE IT TO ME

YOUR OPPO-NENT IS DEFINITELY STRUGGLING AT LEAST AS MUCH AS YOU!!

THANKS, IMAIZUMI

THEN I'LL HOPE WITH ALL MY MIGHT.
THERE ARE ONLY LESS THAN 10KM UNTIL THE GOAL... IT'S COMING UP RIGHT AWAY...IF THESE FEELINGS CAN BECOME EVEN A SMALL PART OF YOUR STRENGTH

I'M COUNTING ON YOU, IMAIZUMI !!
PLEASE WIN.

OH, THAT'S RIGHT. YOU'RE RIGHT. WHAT SHOULD WE DO? MAYBE PUT TWO IN ONE...

HANDING OUT SUP-PLIES FOR FOUR IS GOING TO BE ROUGH WITH JUST THE TWO OF US.

LET'S HEAD BACK TO THE TENT, SUGIMOTO.
AH...

KOGA-SAN, ON OUR BIKES, THE TWO OF US
BUT...

YES, KOGA-SAN
ACCORD-ING TO THE RADIO IN THE TENT,
THE TRAILING GROUP IS ON THE WAY
ONODA AND TESHIMA ARE PROBABLY JOINING UP WITH AOYAGI AND THE OTHERS RIGHT ABOUT NOW.

REALLY MANAGED TO MAKE IT TO THE RESUPPLY POINT.

....

YEAH.

HOLD ON, SUGI-MOTO !!

EXCUSE ME, COMING THROUGH !!

THEY'RE CARRYING BOTTLES ?!

WAH, WHAT'S THIS?

ONLY 1 MORE KM, SUGIMOTO. WE CAN MAKE IT!

YES!

YESSS!!

CARRYING EVERYONE'S SUPPLIES

AND USING THE PAIR OF SPARE BIKES FROM THE VAN, WE SOMEHOW MANAGED TO MAKE IT UP HERE

!...

WELL, BEFORE, I COULDN'T REALLY THINK OF ANYTHING BEYOND GIVING IT MY ALL TO MAKE IT IN TIME

BUT NOW, THE THOUGHT IS MAKING ME TREMBLE WITH EXCITEMENT...

BUT I WAS REALLY HAPPY TO RIDE AT THE INTER HIGH, I GUESS. YEAH.

IT WASN'T EXACTLY THE INTER HIGH COURSE,

IT WAS REALLY ROUGH, BUT, WELL, HOW DO I PUT IT...

I REALLY WANT TO TRY MY HARDEST, AND NEXT YEAR, I'LL RIDE IN THE INTER HI--

YEAH, THE INTER HIGH IS EXCITING AFTER ALL!

KOGA-SAN IS A 3RD YEAR--

AH

HAH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, SUGIMOTO.

I'M SORRY... AH

YOU GOING TO PARTICIPATE? IN NEXT YEAR'S INTER HIGH?

THIS IS HIS LAST INTER HIGH

EH?

KYOUTO?!

HUH?

THEIR SUPPORT... IS GETTING READY?

KYOTO

MEANING "THEY'RE COMING"--

THAT MEANS THEY'RE GETTING READY TO HAND THE SUPPLIES OVER, RIGHT?!

THE FACT THAT THEY MOVED OUT IN FRONT--

EH?!

MAKE SURE YOU REMEMBER ALL THIS. THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE INTER HIGH.

IN THAT CASE, YOU'D BETTER DO YOUR BEST AT PRACTICE.

WELL, WE NEED TO GET OUR JOB DONE BEFORE THAT. WE NEED TO HAND OVER THE SUPPLIES TO THE FOLLOWING GROUP--

!!

RIGHT ?!

BUT BARELY ANY TIME HAS PASSED ?!

IMAIZUMI AND NARUKO HAVE ONLY JUST LEFT

THE CHEERS-- HERE THEY COME?!

UWAA, THEY'RE HERE!

THIS INFO JUST IN

DID WE JUST NOT HEAR IT? ANNOUNCEMENT OF A CORRECTION OR SOMETHING?

箱根学園
自転車競技部

THE CLOSEST TRAILING GROUP WAS MOSTLY COMPOSED OF US, SOUHOKU, AND HAKO GAKU IN ABOUT THE SAME POSITION.

HAKOGAKU

THEY HAVEN'T MISTAKEN HAKOGAKU FOR THEM OR SOMETHING?!

LOOKS LIKE THEY SHOOK OFF THE TRAILING PACK

IT COULD BE THAT THEY LET THEM GO, AND IT'S NOT CERTAIN THAT THEY'LL EVEN CATCH UP TO THE LEADERS.

I DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE THAT DOU-BASHI AND THE OTHERS LOST IN POWER.

WELL, I DO BELIEVE IN THEM, BUT...

BUT IT'S TRUE THAT THEY'RE CHASING...

!!

...NO.

THIS YEAR, CHASING AFTER THE LEADERS

ALL ON HIS OWN...!?

ALL...

WE ARE TALKING ABOUT KYOU-TO'S MI-DOUSUJI WHO MADE A LOT OF TRICKY MOVES LAST YEAR...!!

箱根学園
陸上競技部

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都
THERE ARE TWO OF THEM!!

AND RIDING FOR THE SAME TEAM, 1ST YEAR, KISHIGAMI KOMARI!!

THERE'S THE KYOUTO FUSHIMI ACE, #111, MIDOU-SUJI AKIRA!!

京都伏見

ハァ

PLEASE DON'T MIND ME

LOOKS LIKE THE RAIN IS LETTING UP, SO I'LL BE OFF

THAT GUY!!

THAT GUY!!

HE CAN RIDE?

HE WAS LISTED AS AN ALTERNATE ON THE MEMBER LIST. I HEARD A RUMOR THAT HE WAS THE MASSAGER FOR THE TEAM...

EH...?

EH, AT THE TRAINING CAMP?!

THE GUY WHO SHOWED UP AT OUR TRAINING CAMP...

EVEN THOUGH YOU HAD GOOD MEAT.

YOU REALLY DIDN'T PARTICIPATE IN THE INTER HIGH.

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GOOO--- KYOU-FUSHI--!!

PEDAAA AL-- KISHI-GA-MIII--!

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そ"

KYOUTO FUSHIMI !!

THEY DIDN'T AIM FOR EITHER THE SPRINT OR THE MOUNTAIN. I GUESS THEY'RE FOCUSING IN ON THE GOAL THIS YEAR AFTER ALL.

NO...

WEREN'T EYES AIMING FOR VICTORY?!

THOSE

WHAT'S WITH HIM... KISHI-GAMI...

KU...!!

I'LL PULL FOR YOU...! I WANT TO CATCH UP TO THE LEADERS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE...

OF COURSE ...

YES...

YOU TAKING THE LEAD, KOMARI-KUN ?

BE CAREFUL!! IMAIZUMI!! NARUKO!!

THOSE GUYS INTEND TO CATCH UP!!

PLENTY OF GOOD MEAT GATHERED AT THE FRONT, RIGHT?!

THERE IS

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MEAT !!

ハァッ

MEAT ...

ハァ

ナデナデ

YOU JUST HAVE NO SELF-CONTROL, HUH!!

PUPU SERIOUSLY...

KOMARI-KUUN...

KOGA HAS GOOD MEAT, WHAT A WASTE
TRANSLATIONS: SLEEPING DRAGONS
TYPESET: ECTINI, RAZ, RACHEL
CLEANING: RACHEL
YOWAPEDAFANSCANS.TUMBLR.COM
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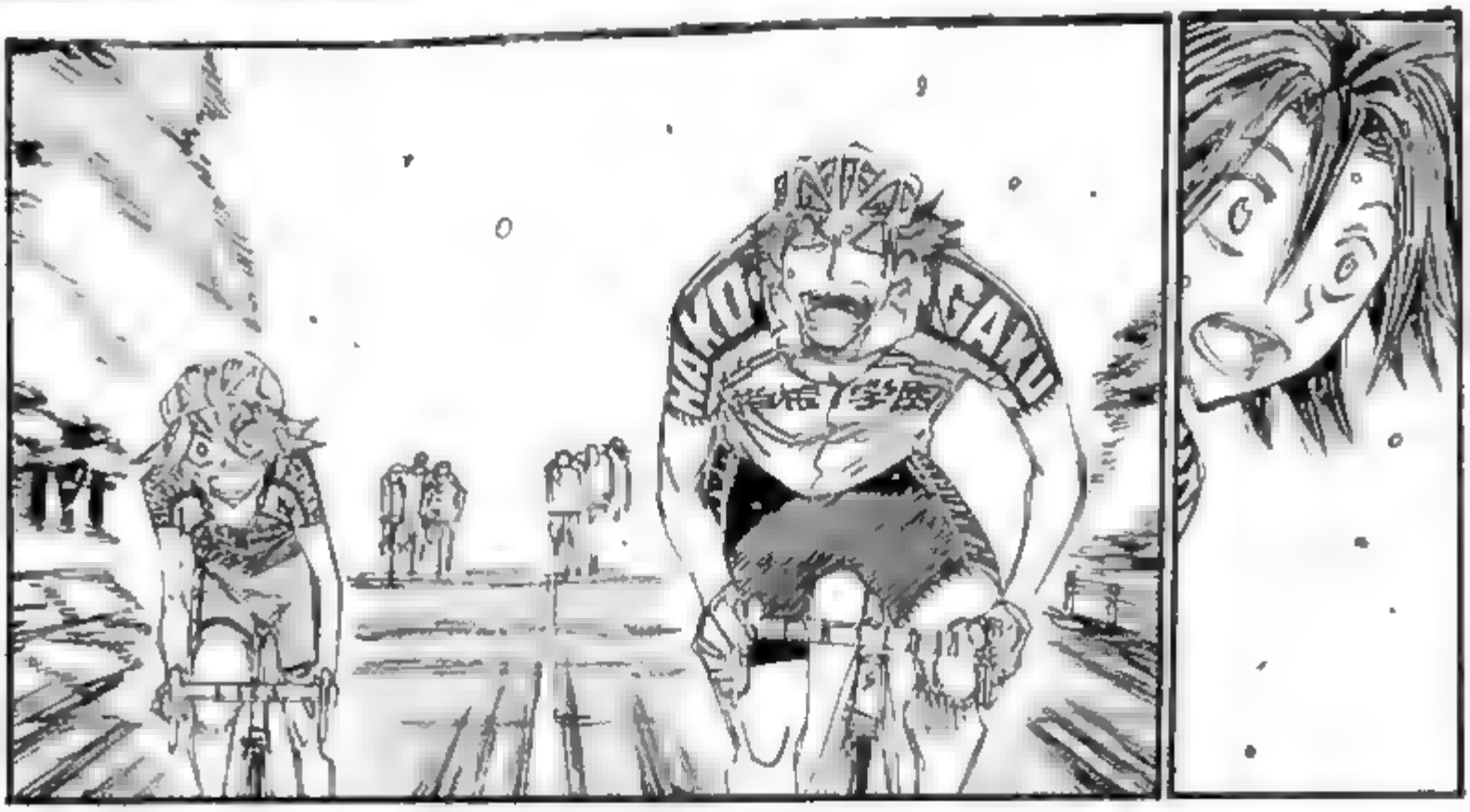
渡辺航

.....!!


GAKU

THOSE GUYS

EVEN THOUGH, I THOUGHT I HAD TAKEN ENOUGH PRECAUTIONS--

RESUPPLY POINT 200M AHEAD

給水所 200m先

BUT THEY KEPT THEIR PRESENCE HIDDEN AND WITH 200M LEFT--

I WAS VERY CAUTIOUS OF ANY MOVEMENTS FROM BEHIND

AND I'D PREDICTED THAT IF THEY WERE GOING TO MAKE A MOVE, THEY'D DO IT BEFORE REACHING THE RESUPPLY POINT.

I DID THINK THAT KYOUTO WOULD AIM FOR THE GOAL THIS YEAR AS WELL

SO THEY'RE EITHER LETTING THE FIRST DAY PASS, OR THEY RAN INTO SOME TROUBLE?

I GUESS THEY'RE NOT COMING, HUH. KYOUTO?

WELL, IF THEY'D COME, I'D INTENDED TO HAVE DOUBASHI KEEP THEM IN CHECK, BUT...

I LET MY GUARD DOWN FOR A SINGLE INSTANT--

BWAH. SO FINALLY AT THE RESUPPLY POINT, HUH?

EACH OF YOU SHOULD PREPARE FOR RESUPPLY

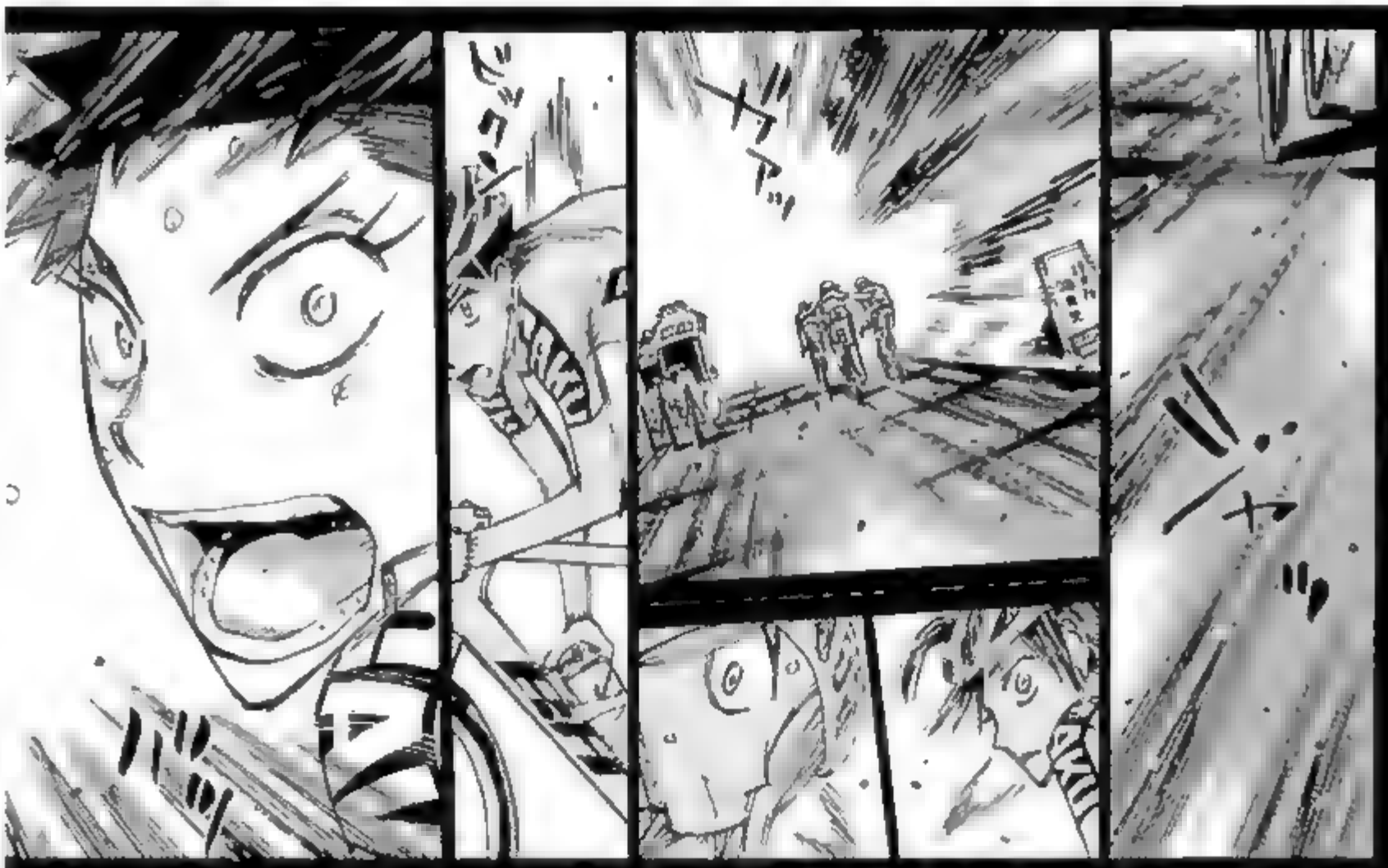
SO THEY'RE NOT COMING-- KYOUTO

WE'RE ALMOST AT THE RESUPPLY POINT."

YES YES YES

FOR ONLY A FEW SECONDS.

IN ORDER TO PREPARE FOR THE RESUPPLY BEFORE ARRIVING, MY ATTENTION WANDERED



# RIDE.339 NEAR FUTURE

KABU-
RAGI

GO!!

HE GOT PAST!! DOU-BASHI!!

THEY'RE COMING FROM THE MIDDLE!!

THEY AL-READY GOT PAST

HOU RUA AAH

UWOO OHH

KYOUTO

KYOUFUSHI

STOP THEM !!

15
HAKUSAN
HOU
RUAA
AAHH
BU
OO
OHH

SEEE...

AT AN IMPORTANT TIME LIKE THISSS...

THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU HAVE A POOOINTLESS SPRINT BATTLEEE.

YOU CAN'T CATCH UP!!

GUH!

SHIT!

SO

KANZAKI

IT ONLY... TOOK AN IN-STANT...

THEY PASSED BY IN AN IN-STANT...

SHIIITT!

UWO OOHH!!

MIDOUSUJI-KUN AND...

KOMARI-KUN...!!

THEY PASSED US...!!

BE CARE-FUL!!

THEY INTEND TO AIM FOR THE GOAL FROM HERE...

IMAIZUMI-KUN!!

NARUKO-KUN!!

WE'VE CAUGHT UP TO YOU BIT-BY-BIT!! HAKO GAKU-SAN!!

BIT-BY-BIT

FIRST DAY'S GOAL IN: 4.5KM

1日目
ゴールまで
のこり

THERE ARE 4500 UNTIL THE GOAL!!

4.5 km

45 km

WE'LL SOON BE ARRIVING AT THE FINAL STATION!!

4.5 !!

4.5 KM!!

4500 !!

TOUICHIROU...!! AS YOU SAID, THESE GUYS ARE PERSISTENT !!

SO THEY STILL HAVEN'T GIVEN UP..

SOUNDS GOOD. I'LL BE RIDING THAT TRAIN THEN.

DON'T JUST RIDE IT, IDIOT!

THE FARE IS 500,000,000 YEN!!

SUNOKU

NARUKO LIMITED EXPRESS!! IT'S A DIRECT LINE TO ARRIVING FIRST AT THE GOAL!!

LWAAH! WHAT A DISGUSTING RICH-PERSON DECLARATION!!

IT WAS A JOKE.

YOU KNOW, YOU'RE SUCH A HOTSHOT, THAT IT TOTALLY DOESN'T SOUND LIKE A JOKE. YOU MUST HAVE NO FRIENDS.

OH? THAT'S PRETTY CHEAP. DO YOU TAKE CASH?

I CALL PEOPLE WHO HAVE COME TO MY HOUSE TO HANG OUT FRIENDS.

NO, I'M GOOD.

SHALL I BE YOUR FRIEND? AS A SPECIAL, LIMITED TIME OFFER.

WHAT'S WITH THAT ELEMENTARY-SCHOOL-DEFINITION OF FRIENDS!!

YOU REALLY DON'T HAVE ANY!!

...HM?

.....

WELL, THERE'S ONODA AND

I DECIDE MY OWN CRITERIA!!

!

NO MATTER HOW TRIVIAL THEY ARE

SAY WHATEVER YOU'D LIKE...

SHOOT

ANZAI GYMNASIUM

THE ACE IMAIZUMI WENT AHEAD!!

EH?!

WITH 4000 M LEFT

4

!?

HOT-SHOT!!

SHOOT

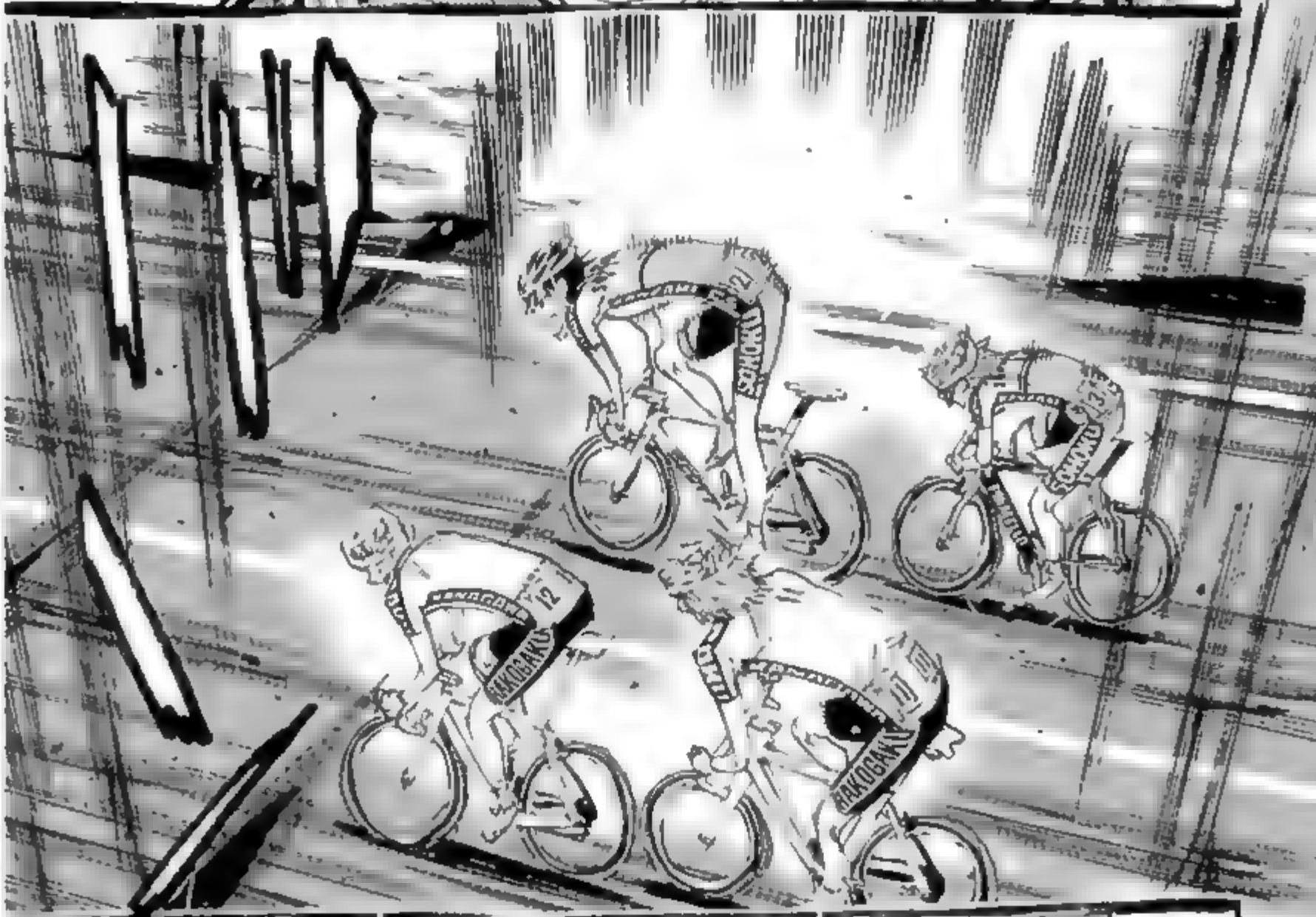
I'M SPEEDING UP!! DON'T GET TORN OFF, NARUKO!!

KA KA KA!

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE TALKING TO?

THE GENIUS ALL-ROUNDER-MAN, NARUKO SHOUKICHI!!

I'M




I'M THE ACE.

IT'S ME.

IMAIZUMI GOT IN FRONT AND IS SPEEDING UP?! DON'T THEY KNOW THAT THE ACE NEEDS TO CONSERVE HIS STRENGTH?! THESE STUPID AMATEURS!!

!!

THESE GUYS!!

THEY'VE CHASED US ALL THE WAY HERE!!

YUKI-CHAN...!!

HOW HAP-HAZARD... YOU BASTARDS REALLY ARE HAP-HAZARD.

...HA!!

YOU'RE UNDERES-TIMATING US!!

SO SINCE THE ACE HASN'T BEEN DE-CIDED, IT'S FINE EITHER WAY, IS IT?!

WILL MAKE YOU UNDER-STAND!!

YOU DON'T KNOW...

WHAT POSITION YOU'RE IN, DO YOU...?

FLIP MY "SWITCH"

I'LL TEACH YOU.

WITH THAT ALL-OR-NOTHING SORT OF STRATEGY ?!

DO YOU THINK YOU CAN WIN? AGAINST US?!

!!

TWO TIMES ONE IS 2.

TWO TIMES FOUR IS 8.

TWO TIMES EIGHT IS 16.

TWO TIMES SIX IS 12.

HOKU

ズリ

ズリ

MEAT IS 18!!

TL NOTE: AHAHAHAHA THIS PUN DOESN'T WORK T.T
AS YOU SAW ABOVE, HE'S BASICALLY GOING THROUGH THE TWO TIMES TABLE. AND OF COURSE, NEXT IN LINE IS TWO TIMES NINE, OR "NI KU" (9 IS MORE OFTEN HEARD "KYUU" BUT CAN BE "KU" IN SOME CASES). GUESS WHAT ELSE IS SAID AS "NI KU" KOMARI'S FAVORITE THING, AKA MEAT ...
う = 九 肉

MI--

MIDOU-SUJI!!

CAAAA AAUGHT UP!!

IT'S A HERD OF MEAT !!

IS THIS WHAT THEY MEAN WHEN THEY SAY SOME-THING AP-PEARS HUGE FOR AN IN-STANT?!

BECAUSE OF ALL THE PRES-SURE HE'S EX-ERTING

TO BE FAIR, MIDOUSUJI HAS A POINT.
AND IMAIZUMI HAS NO FRIENDS

TRANSLATIONS: SLEEPING DRAGONS
TYPESET: ECTINI, RAZ, RACHEL
CLEANING: RACHEL
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# RIDE.340
## SEVERELY EARTHSHAKING

3.5KM LEFT!!

18日 ゴールまで のこり

3.5 km

【MAKOTO】 POWER-BOY

=THE FIRST DAY'S GOAL IN 3.5 KM=

SERI-OUS-LY?

AWAH!

BETWEEN HAKOGAKU AND SOUHOKU

CUTTING INTO THE FINAL BATTLE FOR THE GOAL

UNTIL THE FIRST DAY'S GOAL!

MI--!!

# RIDE.340 SEVERELY EARTHSHAKING

KYOU

TO

FUSHI=

MI!!

FOUUND

THEMMM!

SOHOKU

SOHOKU

SOHOKU

12

12

IN ANY CASE!! WHAT'S WITH THIS PRES-SURE?

I'VE HEARD THEY STIRRED UP QUITE THE FUSS LAST YEAR...

KYOUTO FUSHIMI HE SAID?!

HE GOT PAST AOYAGI-SAN AND KABURAGI AND THE OTHERS...?!

SO HE CAUGHT UP TO US...?!

THIS GUY...

I CAN FEEL IT ON MY SKIN...!!

HE'S CALCU-LATED EVERY-THING.

I CAN TELL... THIS GUY...

HE LOOKS HUGE...!!

HE'S NOT THINKING OF ANYTHING OTHER THAN VICTORY!!

PUA ?

PU

KU

KYOUTO FUSHIMI, MIDOU-SUJI--

IT'S JUST AS FUKUTOMI-SAN SAID.

THIS YEAR, THESE WERE THE MAIN POWERS ON SCENE.

ALTHOUGH WE GAVE UP THE VICTORY,

AND IN ADDITION, OTHERS-- THAT'S HOW IT WAS.

US, HAKONE GAKUEN-- FOLLOWED BY SOUHOKU.

IF HE USES HIS LOSS THIS YEAR AS A SPRING-BOARD AND CHALLENGES NEXT YEAR'S INTER HIGH

FROM KYOUTO FUSHIMI, THERE'S THIS GUY CALLED MIDOUSUJI-- HE'S STILL IN THE MIDST OF HIS GROWTH.

HIS RIDING IS PURELY DEVOTED TO VICTORY.

STAY THE SAME.

BUT THERE'S NO GUARANTEE THAT NEXT YEAR, IT WILL

YES.

IF YOU DON'T EXPECT IT WITH STRONG RESOLUTION,

THERE WILL BE NO REINSTATEMENT FOR HAKO GAKU.

STRONG THREE...!!

HAKOGAKU, SOUHOKU, AND KYOUFUSHI. THE AGE OF THESE STRONG THREE IS COMING!!

THERE WILL BE THREE STRONG ONES!!

NEXT YEAR-- KURODA, WHEN YOU BECOME A 3RD YEAR

YES

THREE--

!!

JUST WHERE ARE YOU FACING? HAKO GAKUUU?

HE MOVED TO THE LEFT IN AN INSTANT...!!

TCH

THIS GUY'S FAST!!

IN THE MIDDLE OF A RACE...!!

PU KU KU

OR SOME-THING ?

ARE YOU LOST IN THOUGHT

BUT!!
I JUST

HAVE
TO STOP
HIM WITH
ALL MY
STRENGTH
!!

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KU

WHAT?

HAH

AH

HAH

!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

I JUST... STUM-BLED.

I SAW SOMEONE FROM THE RU-MORED HAKONE GAKUEN

AND I WAS SO HAPPY, I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF

SORRY... I'M A FIRST YEAR, AND THIS IS MY VERY FIRST INTER HIGH...

YOU WERE SO HAPPY YOU STUMBLED?!

HAKOBA

ALL THE GOOD MEAT GATHERS!!

JUST LIKE THE RUMORS SAID... RIGHT BEFORE THE GOAL OF THE INTER HIGH

HE DID SOMETHING SIMILAR TO ME BEFORE WE STARTED.

THIS GUY IS #116... KISHIGAMI KOMARI.

IS HE TRYING TO SHAKE US UP? IS HE TRYING TO AGITATE US?

SUCH GOOD MEAT.

SO THIS IS THE RUMORED HAKOGAKU'S CAT-LEGGED KURODA

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MY VOICE TOO

MY HAND JUST SLIPPED OUT WITHOUT THINKING.

WHAT'S WITH THIS GUY?

IN ANY CASE, JUST HAVE TO FOCUS ON THE GOAL!!

MEAT..

DOES HE HAVE ACTUAL ABILITIES?

HE WAS LISTED AS A SUB...

SO WHY IS HE HERE, NOW, BEFORE THE GOAL?

!!

!

!!

!?

WAIT... WHERE IS HE?

HE'S NOT THERE.

THERE'S A WINDING MOUNTAIN CLIMB!!

ON THE FIRST DAY OF THIS YEAR'S INTER HIGH, AFTER PASSING LAKE CHUUZENJI, THE ELEVATION IS INCREASED BY ANOTHER LEVEL BEFORE THE GOAL.

DON'T BE SURPRISED

MIDOUSUJI?!

WHERE IS

AHEAD, HUH?!

HE GOT PAST! SHIT!!

YUKI-CHAN!

MIDOU-SUJI.

HE'S NOT HERE!

HE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE CHAOS CAUSED BY #116

CHAOS?

IT CAN'T BE-- RIGHT AFTER CATCHING UP--

AND WENT ON THE ATTACK!!

HE'S UP ABOVE !

KU!!

HE'S AIMING FOR THE GOAL SOLO!!

SHIT!! EVERY SINGLE FREAKING TIME! ALWAYS CAUGHT BY THAT MI-DOUSUJI!!

CAN YOU MANAGE FOR THE LAST 3KM?!

SHIT! WE'RE GOING AHEAD, NARUKO!!

NARU-KO!

WHAT? WHAT HAP-PENED? WHY IS HE NOT THERE?

!

NARU-KO?!

!?

JUST AS PLANNED!!

PUKU

THE CHAOS FROM OUR ARRIVAL--

I TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THAT TO ATTACK.

AS LONG AS I HAVE VICTORY, I NEED NOTHING ELSE.

ハァ

ALL I WANT IS VICTORY.

3KM LEFT

STILL, THAT KOMARI-KUN. HE REALLY

PU KU

CAN'T CONTROL HIMSELF AT ALL.

COM-PLETE-LY!!

I'LL PULL AWAY-- RIGHT HERE.

SOLO, JUST LIKE THIS!!

I'LL BE TAKING THE GOAL

THE SECOND IS--

--OR THAT'S HOW IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN.

YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE-- IT WASN'T KOMARI-KUN-- BUT IT SEEMS LIKE YOU NEVER TOOK YOUR EYES OFF ME FOR ONE MOMENT...

THE FIRST ONE TO FINISH THE CLIMB IS #111, KYOU-FUSHI'S MIDOUSU-JI!!

WOW

THE TOP IS KYOU-FUSHI!

SERI-OUSLY?

THE SECOND IS SOUHOKU!! NARUKO!! HE'S FOLLOWING MIDOUSUJI WHO WAS LEADING SOLO BEFORE!!

SPIKY BEAN KUU UN!!

SOUHOKU

SOUHOKU

PUA?

YOU HA-VEN'T FOR-GOTTEN IT, RIGHT?

MIDOU-SUJI!!

THAT BATTLE DURING WINTER LAST YEAR

AH, THE GOOD OLD "IT'S MY FIRST DAY" EXCUSE. NEVER FAILS

TRANSLATIONS: SLEEPING DRAGONS
TYPESET: ECTINI, RAZ, RACHEL
CLEANING: RACHEL
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IT'S #111 FROM KYOUTO FUSHIMI!

NO WAY!

HERE COMES THE LEAD!!

THERE ARE 3KM LEFT UNTIL THE GOAL!!

IT'S NOT EVEN A GROUP

# RIDE.341 SPIKY BEAN

THE ONE AND ONLY PERSON STICKING CLOSE TO THAT #111 IS--

WHAT HAP-PENED?

I GOT A REPORT ABOUT 10 MINUTES AGO THAT SOUHOKU AND HAKOGAKU WERE FIGHTING IT OUT--

WHERE'S HAKO GAKU?!

#3 NARU-KO !!

SOU-HOKU'S RED MAN!!

THESE TWO ARE COMPLETELY IN THE LEAD!!

I CAN'T SEE A TRAILING GROUP!!

AND HERE I THOUGHT THAT TODAY, EITHER SOUHOKU OR HAKOGAKU WOULD TAKE THE FIRST DAY'S GOAL...!!

SERIOUSLY?

SOMETHING'S GONNA HAPPEN. SOME SORT OF BEWILDERING CHANGE

STILL, ISN'T THIS EXACTLY WHAT IS THRILLING ABOUT A ROAD RACE?!

I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO IDEA WHO'S GONNA WIN THINGS THIS YEAR EITHER!

3KM... LEFT

I WONDER WHO'S GONNA TAKE THE GOAL!!

"HAVE I FORGOTTEN?" YOU ASKED...?

LESSE...

"WHAT HAPPENED IN WINTER OF LAST YEAR"...?

PU PU

THAT WAS CERTAINLY IMPRESSIVE, BUT WHAT IS TRULY WORTHY OF MENTION IS—

AMIDST THAT CHAOS, HE WAS THE ONE AND ONLY PERSON WHO DIDN'T TAKE HIS EYES OFF ME.

SPIKY-BEAN-KUN

HE KEPT UP... WITH MY ATTACK...

THE SEASONS HAVE CHANGED AFTER ALL

PU PU

WAS THERE SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED?

QUIT SPRINTING

AND BECAME AN ALL-ROUNDER!!

THIS MAN TRULY

PU

ギョロオッ

YOU WERE SO PROUD OF THEM...

PU PU

THE FACT THAT HE'S MANAG-ING TO KEEP UP WITH MY ATTACK ON THE SLOPES!!

YOU WERE SO PROUD OF THOSE DEEP WHEELS, BUT YOU EVEN TOSSED THEM ASIDE

WEREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE A SPRINTER?

# RIDE.341 SPIKY BEAN

PU PU

I SWITCHED TO BEING AN ALL-ROUNDER.

MIDOU-SUJI!!

BY YOUR EYES, IT LOOKS TO ME LIKE YOU TOTALLY REMEMBER EVERYTHING!!

SPIKY-BEAN-KUN!!

SO SORRY!! I CAN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING AFTER ALL!

IDIOT!! THAT'S

EXACTLY WHAT I CAME TO TAKE BACK!

THAT'S WHY I CAME HERE!!

I DON'T!!

SUCH A PRECIOUS THING

PUPU... RINTER...

PU PU

WITHOUT FAIL, YOU CERTAINLY THREW IT AWAY...

PU PU

I DON'T HATE THAT SORT OF GUY, YOU KNOW?!

IT HAS AN UNPARALLELED FEELING OF TENSION, RIGHT!!

AND GET BACK YOUR TITLE AS A RINTER?

YOU WANT TO FIGHT ME

TAKE IT BACK?

A BIRD?

FINAL 3KM... AT SUCH AN IMPORTANT LOCATION?

RIGHT HERE?! IN THIS INTER HIGH'S...

SEEMS INTERESTING...

THEN SHALL WE? ...BUT THAT'S

FINE BY ME...

ゆっくり

HE'S LEANING FORWARD ABNORMALLY FAR WHILE DANCING!!

SO FAST!

LOOK AT THAT!! WHAT'S WITH THAT?

KYOU FUSHI'S SPEEDING UP!! ON THIS WINDING SLOPE!!

SO FAST!!

!!

ゆら

ONLY IF YOU CAN KEEP UP WITH ME!!

YA HA

AA

JUST PUTTING IN A BIT OF EFFORT

WELL, NO MATTER HOW FAST YOU'VE GOTTEN AT CLIMBING, YOU'RE STILL JUST A SPRINTER, AFTER ALL!!

KYOUFUSHI IS STILL ACCELERATING!!

ISN'T GONNA LET YOU KEEP UP WITH ME, YOU KNOW?!

AAAAH

PUA
?

WOW!!

HE'S STILL FOLLOWING CLOSELY!!

SOUHOKU'S NARUKO!! EVEN THOUGH KYOUFUSHI WAS ACCELERATING

THAT RED ONE IS FAST EVEN THOUGH HE'S SMALL!!

I'M THE TYPE WHO DOESN'T UNDER-STAND UNTIL AFTER IM-PLEMENT-ING IT IN REAL LIFE.

MIDOU-SUJI!!

I DID TELL YOU BEFORE THE START THAT EVEN IF YOU THOUGHT THAT YOU COULD PULL AWAY FROM ME ON A CLIMB, IT WOULDN'T WORK!!

UNTIL WE REACH THE GOAL.

WANT TO COOPER-ATE? WITH ME

YH!

YOU KNOW...

NARUKO-KUN

NO...

WANT TO DO IT, SPIKY-BEAN-KUN?

!

THAT MEANS YOU GETTING THE GOAL ISN'T JUST A DREAM, YOU KNOW?

WE'LL DEFINITELY REACH THE GOAL FIRST.

RIGHT NOW, THE ONLY ONES BEFORE THE GOAL ARE YOU AND ME. JUST THE TWO OF US. IF THE TWO OF US COOPERATE AND RACE AHEAD

RIGHT, RIGHT. DON'T YOU THINK IT'S GOOD? THIS IDEA.

NARUKO-KUN, IF YOU'LL PEDAL YOUR HARDEST

AS A PROOF OF OUR FRIENDSHIP, I'LL LEAVE THE GOAL

IN THE END

I JUST WANT TO PLACE AS HIGH AS I CAN IN PREPARATION FOR TOMORROW.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY. IT'LL BE A PEACEFUL COLLABORATION.

AHH-- IT'S FINE, TOTALLY FINE.

YOU'LL BE ABLE TO DELIVER THAT PRECIOUS JERSEY OF YOURS, YOU KNOW?

THOSE EYES ARE NOT THE EYES OF SOMEONE WILLING TO CONCEDE

YOU'RE BLUFFING.

TO YOU.

...

I-

IT'S A BLUFF!!

-YA HAA AA

DON'T USE WORDS LIKE "FRIEND-SHIP" THAT YOU'RE NOT USED TO USING!!

THE TWO OF THEM ARE SPEED-ING UP ON THE SLOPE ONCE AGAIN!!

SO FAST!!

LAWA

SUKOKU

HA
AA

HE RAISED THE GEAR!!

THIS GUY...!!!

HE'S GOTTEN WAY STRONGER THAN HE WAS LAST WINTER!

THAT HUGE PRESSURE...

HA YAAA

AA AH

GOT SOMETHING ELSE UP MY SLEEVE, YOU KNOW?

I'VE STILL

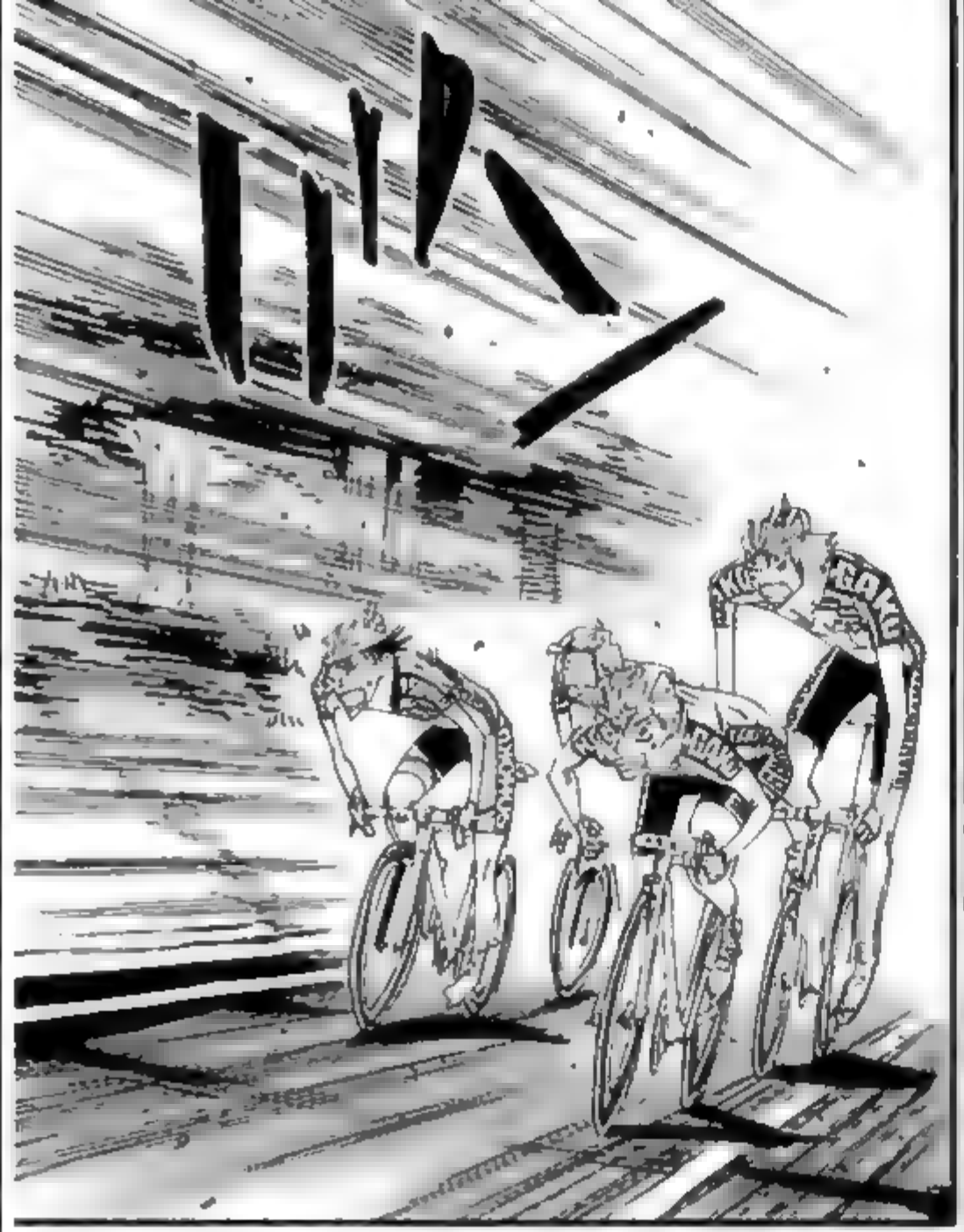
AH-- RIGHT, RIGHT.

THIS IS SPECIAL, OK? I'LL SHOW IT TO YOU.

JUST TO YOU

SPICY-BEAN-KUN

IS THE REAL DEAL, HUH!!



HE JUMPED THE GUN ON US!!
I KNOW !!
YUKI-CHAN

THEY'RE CLOSING THE GAP BIT-BY-BIT!!
SOU-HOKU !!

AFTER MIDOU-SUJI?!
DID NARUKO GO AHEAD CHASING AFTER HIM--?!

YEAH!!

WE'RE CATCHING UP AT FULL THROTTLE, ASHIKIBA!!

HAKOBAKU

FOR US, HAKONE GAKUEN, TO NOT BE THERE BEFORE THE GOAL

IN ANY CASE, IF WE DON'T CATCH UP, WE DON'T STAND A CHANCE.

WHAT'S THE DISTANCE BETWEEN US? TO THAT KYOUTO GUY!

I'M FLIP-PING IT ON, TAKU-TOO!!

IS COM-PLETELY UNFORGIV-ABLE!!

"SWITCH"

YEAH!

DON'T GET SHAKEN OFF! RUAAAA

SO FAST!! KURODA!!

HAKOGAKU'S CHASING THE LEADERS!!

THIS IS... A CLIMB, ISN'T IT?!

WANT TO CO-OPERATE?

SOUHOKU'S IMAIZUMI!!

!

YOU WANNA STOP THAT MIDOUSUJI GUY, RIGHT?

JUST UNTIL THEN.

BUT ONLY IF YOU

ARE ABLE TO KEEP UP WITH MY SPEED!!

ITS TIME FOR THIS AWAITED REMATCH!
TRANSLATIONS: SLEEPING DRAGONS
TYPESET: ECTINI, RAZ, RACHEL
CLEANING: RACHEL
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渡辺航

# RIDE.342 SWITCH

AHEAD
MIDOUSUJI IS WAITING!!
WE'RE ALREADY ONLY 3KM AWAY FROM THE GOAL. AND HAKOGAKU IS AN OPPOSING TEAM AFTER THE SAME GOAL—
BUT
"COOP-ERA-TION" !!

DON'T GET SHAKEN OFF, SOUHOKU'S IMAIZUMI!!
YES!!
WOAHHH!! LOOK! SOUHOKU AND HAKOGAKU ARE CLIMBING TOGETHER!!
WOW!! THEY'RE COOPERATING!!
IN ANY CASE, KURODA'S CLIMB IS REALLY FAST!!
EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE BOTH ENEMIES, THEY'VE GOT THE SAME GOAL, SO THEY'RE HELPING EACH OTHER OUT THAT'S WHAT THIS IS, RIGHT?!
IN THAT CASE, THIS GOES FOR YOU TOO
WELL !!
HAKO
RIDE.342 SWITCH

ZU AAA AAA AH !

WELL OBVI- OUSLY! THAT GUY-- HE'S A FORMER CLIMBER !!

--!!

INCREDIBLE...!!

HE'S SPEEDING UP! AS IF SOMETHING IS PULLING HIM FORWARD!! EVEN THOUGH THIS IS A CLIMB!!

RAA AAA AH

WOW!! LOOK!! THE THREE OF THEM ARE RACING UP THAT HILL!!

SOUHOKU AND HAKOGAKU ARE COOPERATING TO CHASE THE LEADERS!!

KYOU-FUSHI!!

DON'T LOOK DOWN ON ME

FROM EARLIER. THIS GUY

IT'S DIFFERENT!!

RAAAAAH

ON THE "CLIMB" !!

I WILL MAKE YOU REGRET THAT YOU CHOSE TO MAKE YOUR MOVE

DOES IT - HAVE - ANYTHING TO DO WITH WHEN HE TOUCHED HIS HAND AGAINST HIS TEMPLE EARLIER?!

HE SAID SOME-THING ABOUT A "SWITCH" EARLIER.

HIS RIDING STYLE IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM BEFORE. DID HE DO SOME-THING?! THE PRESSURE HE'S EXERTING HAS RISEN A LEVEL!!

YUKI-CHAN

YOU'RE SO FAST, YUKI-CHAN.

ROAD RACE

AFTER DOING THAT=

YOU'VE FLIPPED IT-ON. YOUR "SWITCH"

KANAGAWA 11

I WAS WONDERING IF IT WAS SOME SORT OF GOOD LUCK CHARM OR SOME-THING.

I MEAN, YUKI-CHAN, YOU ALWAYS SAY YOU'RE FLIPPING YOUR "SWITCH" ON BEFORE THE GOAL AND THEN GET YOU GET FASTER.

I MEAN, YOU DID T TODAY TOO, BEFORE THE GOAL...

HA !!

YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT I MEAN BY "SWITCH"?

AN?

スッ

I'VE GOT A SCRATCH.

ACTUALLY, RIGHT HERE

IT'S NOT ANY SORT OF CHARM. DO YOU THINK I'M A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL WHO BELIEVES IN JINXES OR SOMETHING?

WHEN I

TEAR OFF THAT SCAB

THE "SWITCH" COMES FROM IT

THE SCRATCH HASN'T FINISHED HEALING

I THOUGHT EVERYONE IN THE CLUB KNEW THE STORY..

WELL, IT'S NOT SOME-THING THAT NEEDS TO BE BROUGHT UP PURPOSELY

AH..

WELL, THAT SCRATCH--

DID YOU NOT KNOW, ASHIKIBA?

A WHILE BACK, I GOT A SCRATCH THAT AFFECTED MY PRIDE

IT ALL INCREASES.

MY FIGHTING SPIRIT.

MY CONCEN-TRATION.

AND FROM THE CENTER OF MY BODY IT GETS REVIVED.

FROM THE PAST

WITH MY NAILS

HYAAA!

WHEN THAT HAPPENS

THE ME FROM BACK THEN, WHO COULD NOT STAND TO NOT BE NUMBER ONE IN EVERY-THING--

WHEN I DO THIS, MY BLOOD COMES OUT IN A GOOD WAY

YOU WERE DOING SOMETHING LIKE THAT YUKI-CHAN?

I FEEL REFRESHED

THE FEELING OF WANTING TO DEVOUR AN OPPONENT JUST SKYROCKETS!!

KYOU-FUSHI RAA AA AH !!

IT'S ALL INCREASING!!

IT'S BEING CONVEYED, YUKI-CHAN.

!!

IT'S CONVEYED

THIS YEAR'S--

DOES IT INCREASE IN SYNC FOR THOSE TWO...?!!

EVEN THE PRESSURE OF ASHIKIBA BEHIND ME IS INCREASING?!

TO ME TOO.

WAS NOT AGREEING TO COOP-ERATE THE BETTER ANSWER...?!

IT MIGHT END UP AS ME CARRYING THESE TWO STRONG OPPONENTS TO RIGHT BEFORE THE GOAL LINE--

SOUHOKU'S ALREADY GOT NARUKO RIGHT BEFORE THE GOAL. SHOULD MY ROLE HAVE BEEN TO STOP HAKOGAKU INSTEAD?

COULD IT BE...

DID I...MAKE THE WRONG CALL...!! ME!!

HAKO GAKU "#1" AND "#2" ARE!!

THIS TIME SOUHOKU'S UP IN FRONT!!

IF I HADN'T JOINED UP, THERE WAS STILL THE POSSIBILITY THAT THESE TWO WOULD CATCH UP.

IT WOULD BE JUST BARELY, BUT IF THAT HAD HAPPENED

SAH

12

KANZAKI

--NO

THE TWO RIVAL TEAMS FROM LAST YEAR

SO HOT!!

ARE COOPERATING WITH EACH OTHER TO CHASE THE GUYS IN FRONT!!

WOW! SOUHOKU'S PULLING HAKOGAKU !!

GRAB YOUR CAMERA!

NO WAY— THIS FEELS LIKE A DREAM...

SOUHOKU WOULD ONLY HAVE 1 PERSON UP FRONT!! THAT WOULD BE AN OVERWHELMING DISADVANTAGE!!

SOUHOKU

!

NICE!! THOSE EYES

AND ON TOP OF THAT, YOU'RE SHARP!! ! BET YOU'RE THINKING OF A LOT OF THINGS.

LIKE WHETHER OR NOT THIS COOPERATION THING WAS THE RIGHT DECISION!!

NICE.

SO YOU CAN DO IT, SOUHOKU'S IMAIZUMI!!

NICE PULLING!! IT'S REALLY SMOOTH AND THERE'S NO WASTE!!

YOUR LIFE IS GOOD

THOSE ARE THE EYES OF A PRIDEFUL "ELITE"!!

IT'S WRITTEN ALL OVER YOUR FACE: "WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU KNOW?"

SORRY, BUT, I DO KNOW.

BECAUSE I WAS ALSO

ONE OF THOSE ELITE!!

NEVER PART OF THE FLOCK. NEVER RETREAT.

UGH

NEVER LISTEN TO WHAT ANYONE ELSE SAYS, RIGHT?! THAT HABIT

HE RAISED THE SPEED BY YET ANOTHER LEVEL!!

HE WENT UP FRONT AGAIN!!

SO FAST!! KURODA-SAN.

NOT REALLY... IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT.

AND THAT GETS MISUN-DER-STOOD.

THAT HABIT MEANS YOU CAN DO DOUBLE WHAT OTHERS DO...!!

NAÏVE KIDDY.

WELL, DO YOUR BEST.

WANT TO BE STRONG-ER

YOU

WANT TO CRAWL YOUR WAY UP

I'VE GOT RESULTS TOO!! WHETHER I'M ELITE OR NOT HAS NO BEARING ON THAT!!

I WORKED HARDER THAN ANYONE ELSE. THAT'S WHY I'M STRONG!!

HAVE YOU EVER BOWED YOUR HEAD TO THE GUY YOU HATED THE MOST?

YUKI-CHAN, I'LL CHANGE. MY TURN UP FRONT!!

AH... !!

SO "DO YOUR BEST"!!

AS FOR ME-- A TEAM IS SOMETHING WHERE WHEN YOU STRUGGLE, WORRY, AND FLOUNDER

IN SUCH A FRIENDLY CLUB.

YOU GET STRONGER BECAUSE OF IT. THAT'S WHAT I THINK!!

THAT'S NICE. JUST KEEP IT UP LIKE THAT, IMAIZUMI.

I REALLY WANT TO SEE HOW FAR YOU'LL GO!!

DON'T COME UP, ASHIKIBA !!

KANA

NO MATTER WHAT PINCH WE'RE IN, JUST BELIEVE IN YOUR ACE ASSIST AND SAVE YOUR LEGS IN THE BACK.

THAT'S YOUR JOB!!

DON'T SCREW AROUND, TAKUTO!!

YOU'RE THE ACE!

THE ROLE OF THE ACE IS TO GET THE GOAL

I'LL PULL TOO.

BESIDES, THE THREE OF US ARE COOPER-ATING!!

BUT...!! IF WE DON'T CATCH UP TO THE FRONT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE...

TAKU

IF YOU HAVE ANY COMPLAINTS ABOUT THAT, IMAIZUMI, I'LL EVEN PULL 3 TIMES AS MUCH.

AND PULL TWICE AS MUCH!!

DON'T WORRY... I'LL TAKE YOUR PART

HE INTENDS TO CARRY OUT HIS ROLE AS THE "ASSIST"?!

"THIS PERSON, EVEN UNDER THESE CIRCUM-STANCES"

OO OH !!

KU !!

I'M THE BLACK CAT DELIVERY MAN, KURODA !!

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS SHUT UP AND STICK CLOSE.

ZUA AAH

PUFU ...PU PU PU
SO THIS MUCH?
REACHED YOUR LIMIT - AFTER ALL.
IS YOUR LIMIT!! SPIKY-BEAN-KUN!!
IN THAT CASE, I'LL BE TAKING IT.
THE GOAL IS MINE!!
I STILL CAN'T SEE MIDOU SUJI!!
SHIT!!
THERE ARE ONLY 2 AND A HALF KM LEFT!!
ARE WE JUST NOT GOING TO CATCH UP AT ALL?!
HE'S FASTER THAN I'D ASSUMED!!
SOHOKU

TCH!!

IF THAT HAPPENS, I'M COUNTING ON YOU, NARUKO!!

ｽﾞﾓｯ

SOUSUKE

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KURODA DIDN'T YOUR MOM TELL YOU ITS BAD TO SCRATCH YOUR SCABS?

TRANSLATIONS: SLEEPING DRAGONS
TYPESET: ECTINI, RAZ, RACHEL
CLEANING: RACHEL
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# RIDE.343 getting away

RIDING IN FRONT IS KYO-FUSHI!!

GO !!

THERE ARE 2.5KM LEFT TO THE GOAL OF THE FIRST DAY!!

I JUST HEARD OVER THE RADIO THAT THREE GUYS FROM HAKONE GAKUEN

AND SOHOKU ARE IN PURSUIT, BUT THEY SAID QUITE A DISTANCE HAD OPENED UP

THIS YEAR'S KYOFUSHI IS INCRED-IBLE

THAT ON THIS YEAR'S FIRST DAY, THE TWO LEADERS

IT MIGHT EVEN BE POSSIBLE, YOU KNOW

IS EITHER SOHOKU ...

THE DISTANCE ISN'T HUGE, AND IF HE HEADS FOR THE GOAL LIKE THIS... THE WINNER OF THE FIRST DAY...

KYOFUSHI SEEMS TO HAVE REALIZED HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET AWAY LIKE THIS

THERE ARE TWO LEADERS !!

OR KYOFUSHI !!

I NEVER EXPECTED THIS SORT OF DEVELOPMENT !!

WOAH

GOO KYO-FUSHI !!

SOHO KU !!

KYO-FUSHI'S RAISING THE PACE!!

WILL BE ABLE TO GET AWAY LIKE THIS AND REACH THE GOAL?!

THERE ARE TWO METHODS OF TAKING THE GOAL IN A ROAD RACE

SOHOKU'S CHASING DESPERATE-LY!! WHAT A PAINED EXPRESSION!!

THE GUYS WHO ESCAPED ARE CAUGHT BY THE PACK FROM BEHIND

A "PACK GOAL" OR ...

京都

# RIDE.343 Getting away!!

THERE'S A DISTANCE BETWEEN ME AND THE HAKOGAKU GUYS BEHIND

THE GUYS WHO ESCAPED ARE ABLE TO GET AWAY TO THE GOAL WITHOUT GETTING CAUGHT

AN "ESCAPE GOAL"!!

PUPU

I PUT THERE

AND ALSO... BECAUSE OF WHAT KOMARI-KUN!!

BY READING THE TERRAIN, THE TIME, AND THE TIMING

IT'S A GAP

AND IT'LL BE MY WIN!!

ALL I HAVE TO DO NOW IS MAINTAIN THIS GAP

2KM !!

ONLY

CRYS-TALIZE

VICTO-RY

WIN

THAT IS

THE MOST PURE THING

THE PROOF OF BEING MORE RIGHT THAN ANYONE

THE PROOF OF BEING FASTER THAN ANYONE

THE PROOF OF BEING STRONGER THAN ANYONE

# RIDE.344 Exciting straight line!!

AT 1400 M ABOVE SEA LEVEL, TO THE NORTHWEST OF LAKE CHUUZENJI, A VAST WETLAND SPREADS OUT

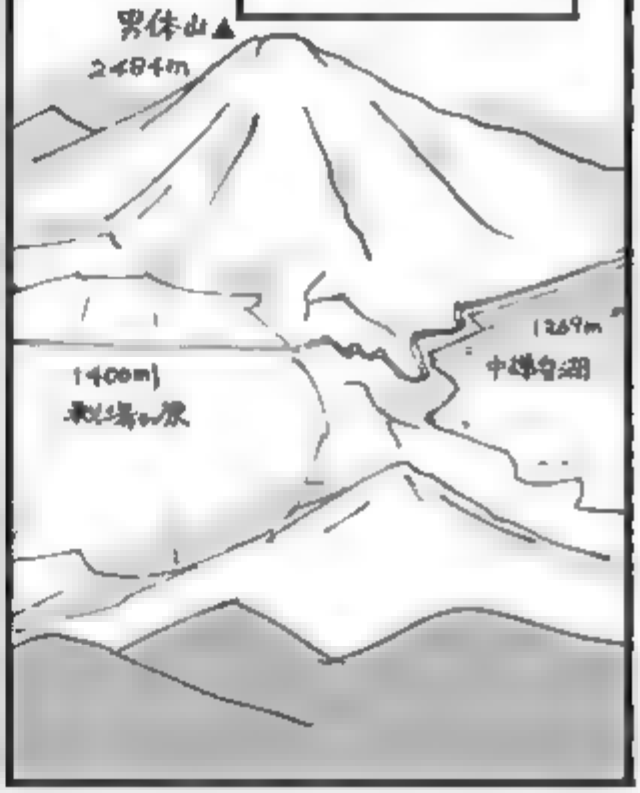
TOCHIGI PREFECTURE, NIKKOU CITY

IN THE SUMMER, THE RESORT IS A LIVELY SIGHTSEEING SPOT

IT IS A FAMOUS VAST WETLAND ON PAR WITH OZE

ITS NAME: SENJOUGAHARA

DUE TO THE ERUPTION OF THE HIGHEST PEAK OF THE NIKKOU VOLCANIC GROUP, MT NANTAI, A NATURAL DAM WAS FORMED AND RESULTED IN THE FORMATION OF A LAKE WHICH, OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME, CHANGED INTO THESE WETLANDS



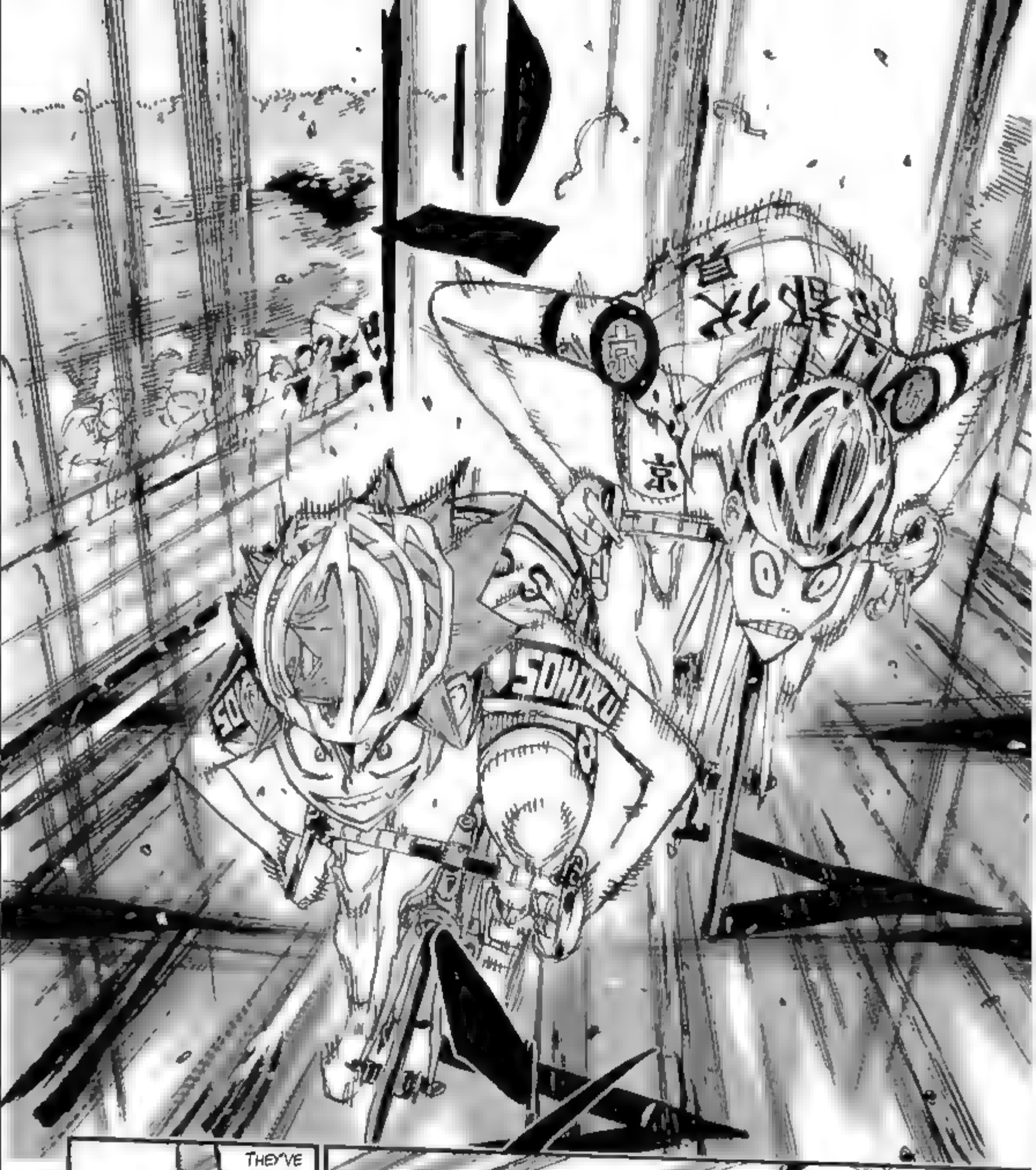
ALONG THIS NATIONAL ROUTE 120 WHICH CROSSES SENJOU-GAHARA

IT IS THE LOCATION WHERE NIKKOU'S GIANT SNAKE AND MT. AKAGI'S GIANT CENTIPEDES BATTLED LONG AGO ACCORDING TO LEGEND

Is where the goal for the first day of the Inter High Tochigi Prefecture tournament is located

At the parking lot of the Sanbonmatsu Park, marked by a specially set up gate: here

# RIDE.344 Exciting straight line!!


SOHOKU
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KYOFUSHI PULLED OFF SOMETHING THAT LOOKED LIKE TAPE
THEY'VE ENTERED THE FLATS RIGHT BEFORE THE GOAL!!

HE BROUGHT OUT HIS "TRUMP CARD"!!

MIDOUSUJI!!

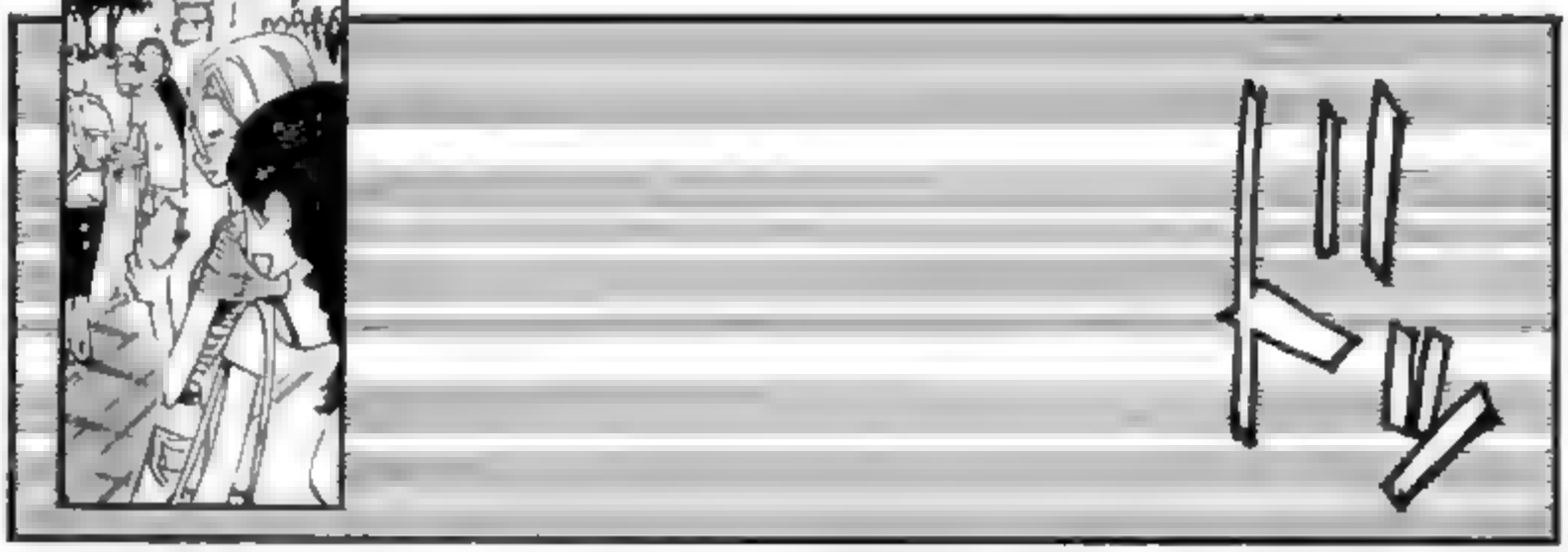
SPIKY

BEAN

KUULIN

THIS IS THE TRUMP CARD I HELD BACK THIS WHOLE TIME!!

RELEASING BOTH MY LEGS!!



IT'S INCREDIBLE! THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE HERE!! EVERYONE'S SUPER EXCITED !!
I'M HERE AT THE GOAL!!
NII-CHAN!!

AH!! HOW'S THE RACE GOING? WE RODE UP ON THE SCHOOL BUS, SO-
WHEN DO YOU THINK YOU'LL GET HERE, NII-CHAN?

SAWADA-KUN AND GORIZOU-KUN DID
HIGH PACE !!
WE DID IT!!
WE DID EXACTLY WHAT YOU SAID
WE GRABBED A SPOT TO CHEER THEM ON RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE GOAL!!

LISTEN CAREFULLY, SADATOKI, GOT IT?

SEEMS LIKE THE LEADERS WILL BE HERE SOON!! HURRY!

THERE'VE BEEN A LOT OF ANNOUNCE-MENTS RECENTLY

THEY'RE REALLY CLOSE BY!!

PLEASE COME AT A HIGH PACE!!

WE'RE WAITING !!

SADATOKI, LISTEN UP

THIS IS 3RD YEAR, KOGA

EH !?

WE DON'T KNOW IF WE'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE IT THERE ON TIME

WE'RE HEADING IN THAT DIRECTION, BUT

RIGHT NOW, LUCKILY, WE WERE ALLOWED TO CATCH A RIDE WITH THE INFORMATION REPORTING CAR HEADING TOWARDS THE GOAL

ALL OF YOU 1ST YEARS OVER THERE NEED TO SUPPORT SOHOKU'S GOAL!!

EH !?

HIGH PACE

WH-

OH?!

WAGO

SADA-TOKI FROZE !!

UH-

HEY, KOGA-SAN, ARE YOU SERIOUS?

OHO?! WE'RE 1ST YEARS, YOU KNOW? THIS IS OUR FIRST INHIGH!

SAWADA, GORIZOU, AND THE OTHER 1ST YEARS SHOULD GET READY TO USHER IN OUR CYCLISTS AFTER THEY CROSS THE GOAL

GET ICE WATER, TOWELS, AND BOTTLES READY

Y- YESSIR !!

HIGH PACE

GOAL

YEP- I MEAN, YES?!

SADATOKI, AS FOR YOU

CHEER THEM ON

COLNAGO

EH?! CHE-?!

RIGHT BEFORE THE GOAL, THE CYCLISTS ARE GIVING EVERYTHING THEY'VE GOT

AND INCLUDED IN THAT, THE THING THAT WILL GIVE THEM THE VERY LAST OF THEIR STRENGTH

IS THE CHEERS OF THEIR TEAMMATES

THEIR VOICES

IT'S A VERY IMPORTANT ROLE

PUSH THEIR BACKS FORWARD WITH YOUR VOICE

LOUD ENOUGH THAT IT WON'T BE DROWNED OUT BY THE VOICES OF OTHERS

DO IT

THERE'S NO ONE ELSE BUT YOU!!

NO BUTS

BUT-

I-

MAKE THEM WIN

WITH YOUR CHEERS

YOUR BIG BROTHER UNDER-STANDS

SO DON'T WORRY

YOU CAN DO IT

I KNOW YOU CAN

DON'T WORRY, SADATOKI

GOAL

YOU

HAVE A MUCH LOUDER VOICE THAN ANYONE!!

I CAN DO IT

I WILL

SUPPORT EVERY-ONE!!

YUP!!

I UNDER-STAND!!

SOHOKU FIGHT !!

UWAH!

HIS VOICE IS STUPID LOUD

THAT GUY SUDDENLY-

THE CY-CLISTS AREN'T HERE YET

ゴォ

KA KA KA

ゴゴ

PU PU

AS EXPECTED OF YOU, SPIKY BEAN-KUN

YOU'RE NOT FALLING OVER

THE ROAD'S PLENTY WIDE, SO STOP COMING OVER HERE GROSSU-JI!!

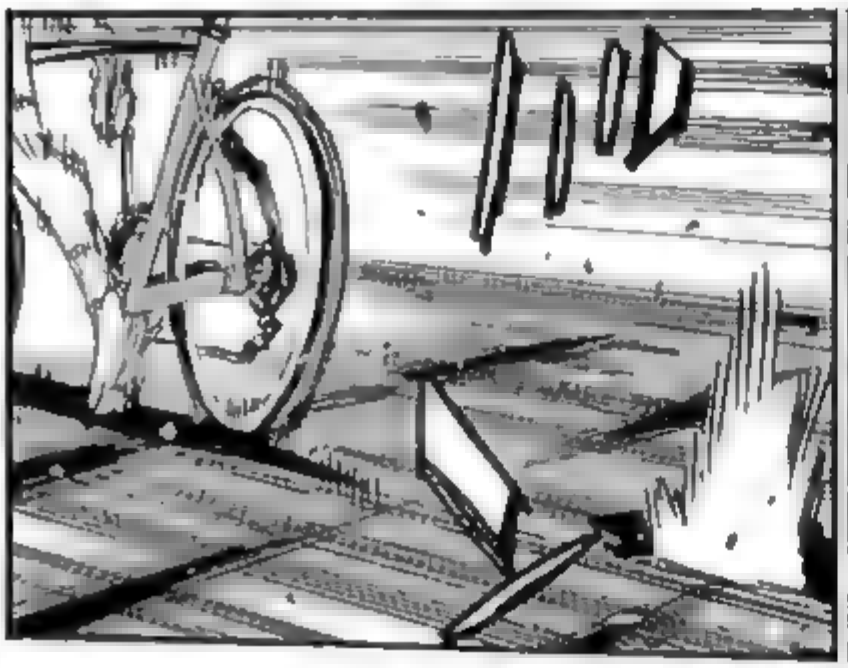
I'M GETTING ALL FIRED UP, MIDOU-SUJI!!

MY BLOOD IS BOIL-ING!!

THEN ISN'T IT BETTER IF YOU GO TO A HOS-PITAL?!

SPIKY-KUUUN !!

IF THERE WERE A RED AND FLASHY HOSPITAL, I'D GO THERE NO MATTER WHAT!!



SOK

HE'S GOTTEN STRONGER, THIS TINY BEAN-KUN!

SPIKY-KUUUN!!

PFFT

NOT BAD AT ALL

ALTHOUGH HE'S STRENGTHENED HIS CLIMB, IT'S NOT AS IF HE'S GOTTEN SLOWER ON THE FLATS

RATHER, IT FEELS LIKE HE'S PUTTING THE MUSCLES FOR CLIMBING TO GOOD USE ON THE FLATS

IS SOMETHING THAT MAKES PEOPLE MANY TIMES STRONGER

MIDOUSUJI, FRUSTRATION

HM?

WHAT'S THAT MEAN?

MIGHT COME BACK AND RACE YOU AGAIN

COULD BE THAT NARUKO-KUN

PI PI PI

WHICH REMINDS ME, ISHIGAKI-KUUN DID SAY SOMETHING LAST WINTER

WREST AWAY THE GOAL!!

FINE BY ME!!

I'LL JUST DISPROVE THAT AND

ONLY 1KM LEFT!!

1

LAST 1000 m

BEING HERE, ON THE FLATS BEFORE THE INTER HIGH'S GOAL AS THE MAN, NARUKO SHOUKICHI!!

ALL MY HAIRS ARE STANDING ON END!!

IT'S MAKING ME SHIVER!!

1000M LEFT!!

THIS IS A ONE-SHOT BATTLE AGAINST THIS GUY, MIDOUSUJI!!

IF THIS ISN'T FLASHY

THERE'S A HUGE CROWD OF SPECTATORS!!

900M LEFT!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT FLASHY IS!!

KYOFUSHI BURST AHEAD!!

WOW!

HE'S ALREADY AWARE OF THE GOAL!!

THIS IS THE BEST!!

I'M GETTING ALL FIRED UP!!

LET'S DO THIS!!

FINE BY ME!!

MIDOUSUJI !!

A BATTLE WITH OUR LIVES ON THE LINE!!

THE VIGOR THEY BOTH HAVE IS BEING CONVEYED ALL THE WAY OVER HERE!!

THEY'RE SERIOUSLY AWE-SOME!!

SO FAST!

SOHOKU'S NOT LOSING OUT!!

IT'S ALREADY SETTLED THAT THOSE TWO WILL ESCAPE, HUH

SO

THE TRAILING 3 HAVE ALSO MADE IT PAST THE CLIMB!!

THEY'RE ENTERING THE FLATS!!

THE DISTANCE TO THE FRONT IS

350M !!

THERE WAS THIS MUCH OF A GAP?!

ISN'T GONNA BE ENOUGH?!

SHIT!!

YOU TELLING ME THAT THE HAKONE GAKUEN PRIDE, THAT WE BUILT UP...

THAT OUR RIDING...

BUT NARUKO IS UP THERE WITH HIM!!

AS EXPECTED, IT'S GONNA BE ROUGH, CATCHING UP FROM HERE!!

IT'S NOT EXACTLY A BAD DEVELOPMENT FOR SOHOKU!!

WAIT!!

INSTEAD OF THINKING UP COMPLAINTS, YOU SHOULD BE RIDING INSTEAD, YUKINARI!!

LET'S GO, TAKUTO!!

THE GOAL WILL

ME, THE ONE KNOWN AS THE DELIVERY MAN, THE BLACK CAT

I BROUGHT THE ACE THIS FAR

AND BECAUSE OF A SINGLE STUPID MISTAKE

!!

IT'S FINE, YUKI-CHAN

RAAAH!!

GAKO

THERE'S NOTHING ELSE FOR US TO LOSE

I'LL PULL

SADATOKI IS THE BEST CHEERLEADER
TRANSLATIONS: SLEEPING DRAGONS
TYPESET: ECTINI, RAZ, RAPINII,
CLEANING: RACHEL
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渡辺航

# RIDE.345 Ashikiba Takuto

Switch

IT'S FINE ALREADY, YUKI-CHAN

HAKOGAKU

SOHOKU

THIS GAP CAN'T BE FILLED WITH JUST THE TWO OF YOU

EVEN WITH YUKI-CHAN AND IMAIZUMI-KUN PULLING, WE WON'T CATCH UP

IF THE ACE DOESN'T SAVE HIS LEGS FOR THE GOAL, HE DOESN'T STAND A FIGHTING CHANCE

BUT IF HE'S NOT EVEN THERE IN FRONT OF THE GOAL, HE CAN'T EVEN PUT UP A FIGHT

HAKONE GAKUEN'S

ACE, ASHIKIBA-SAN IS MOVING!!

BUT IF IT'S THE THREE OF US, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO REACH THEM

GAK

THERE'S NOTHING LEFT FOR HAKONE GAKUEN TO LOSE
I'LL PULL
KANAGAWA
GAKU

I'M 180CM TALL AND EVEN FROM MY PERSPECTIVE, HE'S BIG!!

HE'S GOT AN OVERWHELM-ING FEEL TO HIM!!

HE'S FAST, AND HE'S BIG!!

ASHIKIBA-SAN, THE ACE, WENT UP TO THE FRONT!!

AHEAD...

TO MIDOUSUJI

TO NARUKO !!

DOES HE INTEND TO CATCH UP!!

WITH THE THREE OF US

HAKIBA

FROM HIS LONG LEGS TO HIS DOWNWARDS-SWINGING FEET

HE'S THE TALLEST IN THIS TOURNAMENT AT 202CM!!

THE WIND PRESSURE IS INCREDIBLE!!

THEY LOOK LIKE AN ENORMOUS HATCHET!!

TAKUTO
!!

IS CLASSICAL
MUSIC
RINGING IN
YOUR HEAD?!

IT
IS

IT'S CLICHE, BUT IT'S THE NINTH!!

KEEP GOING, JUST LIKE THAT!!

TAKUTOOO!!

HERE COMES THE TRAILING GROUP!!

GO HAKOGAKU!!

KANAGAWA !!

THE TEAMS WITH MEMBERS UP IN FRONT ARE SOHOKU AND KYOFUSHI ALONE

THE GUY IN FRONT IS HUGE!!

HAKOGAKU CAN'T WORRY ABOUT APPEARANCE ANYMORE

HAKONE GAKUEN'S ACE IS PULLING!!

BUT THE REMAINING DISTANCE IS SHORT!!

IT FEELS LIKE THEY'RE CATCHING UP GRADUALLY

HAKOGAKU'S GOT THEIR PRIDE TOO

WILL THEY CATCH UP?!

THEY'RE RAISING THE SPEED THROUGH ROTATION!!

THE TRAILING GROUP JUST PASSED THROUGH THE 1KM TO THE GOAL POINT!!

1

KO

GAKU

GAKU

I'LL SLOWLY CLOSE THE GAP!!

I'LL CATCH UP

I'LL CATCH UP

CLASSIC'S PLAYING IN MY HEAD AND SIMULATING MY SPIRIT!!

YUKI-CHAN LET ME REST AND BROUGHT ME ALL THIS WAY

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D EVER, IN MY WHOLE LIFE, GET TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS RACE KNOWN AS THE "INTER HIGH"

AND MOREOVER, I'M WEARING HAKONE GAKUEN'S "#1" ZEKKEN

BUT I'M HERE AND TURNING MY PEDALS

I'M TALL, SO I'M THE "BEST"

IN CHARGE OF LAUN-DRY!!

HE'S THE "BEST"

AH, YES, PLEASE LEAVE IT OVER THERE

ME, WHO WAS THE BEST IN CHARGE OF LAUNDRY!!

LET'S RAISE THE STEM BY 10MM

"SO THAT IT STIMULATES YOU"

THAT'S GOOD

JUST RIDE LIKE THAT

LA-

WHAT?

CY-CLIST

WHAT

DO YOU WANT TO BE?

"I TRIED TO RESET EVERY-THING"

EH ?!

WAA

THAT GUY

HE'S RIDING IN THE WRONG DIRECTION.

THAT'S DANGEROUS

AND YET I BETRAYED YOUR EXPECTATIONS

THE GUY IN CHARGE OF LAUNDRY JUST WON THE 1ST YEAR'S B RACE

NO WAY!

I FINALLY GOT RESULTS

IT WAS 3 YEARS NOT WORTHY OF PRAISE

IT WAS A BEWILDERING 3 YEARS

"RIDING THE WRONG WAY"

I DID A WHOLE LOT OF THINGS

"AN INDEFINITE SUSPENSION FROM RIDING IN RACES"

AND YET, EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED ME FORGAVE ME

"I AM STRONG"!!

KEEP IT IN MIND

OVER AND OVER, THINK STRONGLY: "I AM THE ACE" AND

ASHIKIBA THE STRETCH BEFORE THE GOAL

IS NOT ONLY A BATTLE AGAINST YOUR BODY, BUT SIMULTANE-OUSLY ALSO A BATTLE WITH YOUR MENTAL STATE

SENPAI ...

I AM STRONG !!

HUH?

DOES NOT BELONG TO ME!!

THIS CHANCE

11

INTER HIGH

THIS BODY

THIS ZEKKEN

THESE LIMBS

THAT'S WHY

I AM ... FOR THOSE WHO TOLD ME THAT I WAS THE ACE FOR THIS RACE

I KNOW WHAT KINDS OF THOUGHTS YOU TOOK UPON YOURSELF TO GET HERE

I KNOW JUST HOW MUCH YOU WORRIED AND SUFFERED TO GET HERE

GO, TAKUTO !!

TAKU -TO

SO FAST!!
HIS BODY WAVES LEFT TO RIGHT, JUST LIKE
A METRO-NOME !!
でかっ
THERE IT GOES, HAKOGAKU'S ACE, ASHIKIBA'S METRONOME DANCING!!
くぁんっ
RIDING TO REPAY EVERY-ONE!!
HAKO
I AM
STRONG !!
くぁんっ

WE'RE CLOSER !!

箱根学

WE'RE GETTING CLOSER!!

TWO IN FRONT!!

CHANGE, TAKUTO !!

KANAGA-WAAA!!

GO !!

HAKOGAKU'S KURODA WENT IN FRONT!!

I'LL SHOW IT TO YOU MY PULLING !!

ZUAAAAAH

CAT LEGS!!

YIELD !!

HAKOGAKU'S FINAL BIT OF WILLPOWER!!

TO KYOTO'S MIDOUSUJI!! AND SOHOKU'S NARUKO!!

WE'LL DEFINITELY CATCH UP!!

LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE ELSE IS TRYING TO JOIN THE SPRINT FOR THE GOAL
TRANSLATIONS: SLEEPING DRAGONS
TYPESET: ECTINI, RAZ, RAPINII,
CLEANING: RACHEL
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TAKE IT, NARUKO!!

WE'LL DEFINITELY

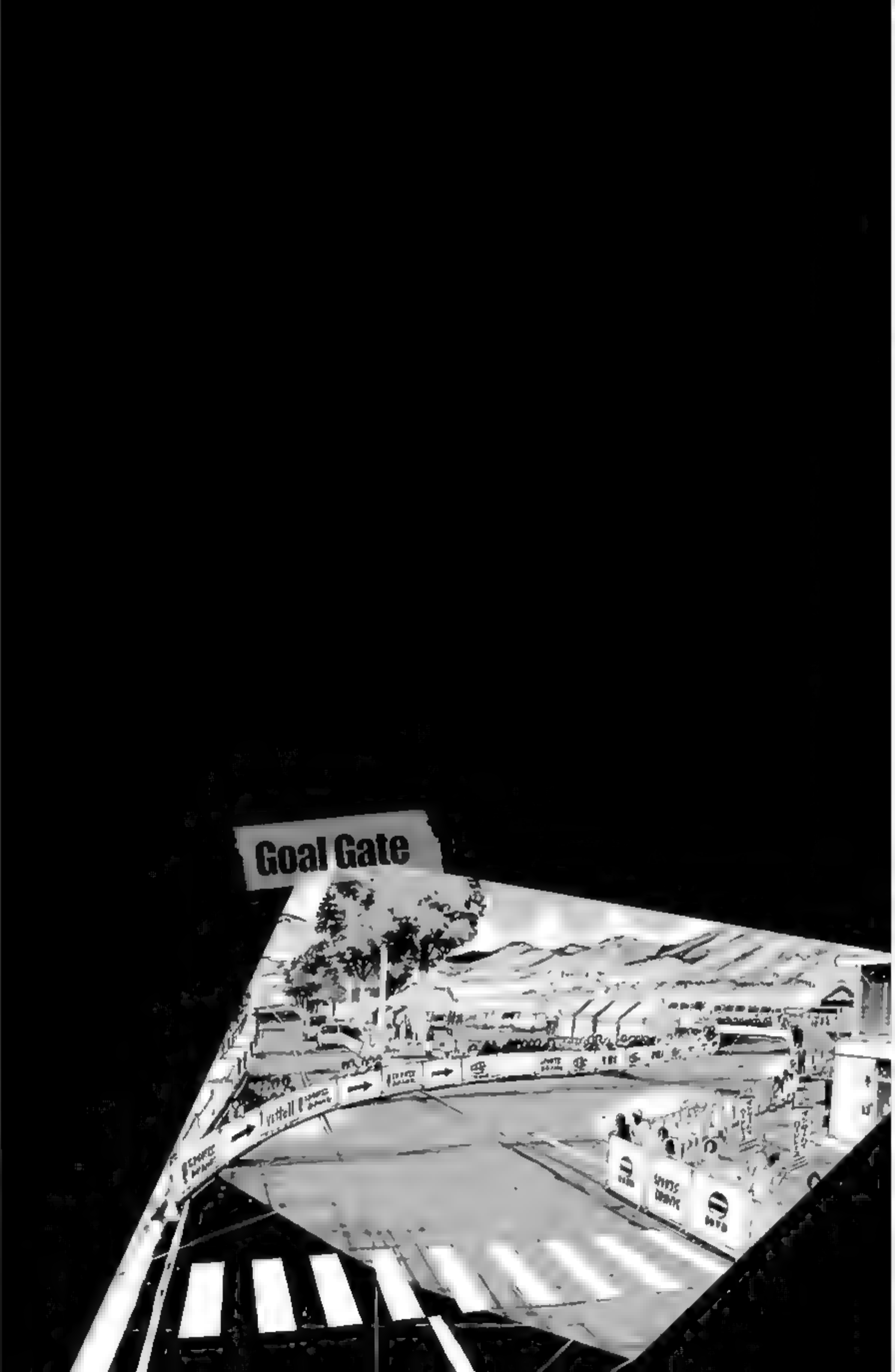
CATCH UP!!

# RIDE.346 The resolute 5

IT'S ALMOST

THE GOAL !!

# RIDE.346 The resolute 5


Goal Gate

THEY'VE CAUGHT SIGHT OF THE TWO IN FRONT!!

THE TRAILING GROUP OF 3, TWO FROM HAKOGAKU AND ONE FROM SOHOKU ARE GETTING CLOSER!!

THEY'RE CHASING AFTER THE LEADERS WITH INCREDIBLE SPEED!!

SO FAST !!

WOAH !!

GOOO, HAKO-GAKU!

THERE ARE 3 IN BACK AND 2 IN FRONT

JUST GOING BY NUMBERS THEY'VE GOT AN ADVANTAGE!!

WITH THAT KIND OF MOMENTUM, THEY'LL CATCH UP TO THE GUYS IN FRONT AND IT'LL BE A 5-WAY SPRINT TO THE GOAL, HUH!!

NO IT'S TRUE, THEY'RE FAST, AND THEY DO HAVE MOMENTUM IF THERE HAD BEEN 1000M LEFT...

EH ?

BUT THE GOAL

NO, EVEN IF THERE HAD ONLY BEEN 700M LEFT, THAT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED

THEY'RE OVER-WHELMINGLY AT A DISADVANTAGE !!
IS ONLY 500M AWAY!!
LAST 500m

GOT AWAYY!!

PUPU-PUPU

BECAUSE, FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, I HAD, "WITH 500M LEFT, THIS DISTANCE"

EVEN IF YOU COMBINE YOUR STRENGTHS, SWEAT, AND MAKE YOUR MUSCLES TREMBLE

IT'S POINTLESS, YOU KNOW?

HAKOGAKU, EVEN IF YOU GET DESPERATE LIKE THAT

CALCULATED IT ALL UP TO HERE!!

LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT

WHAT'S WRONG, MIDOU-SUJI?

あぱ!

THIS SPIKY-KUUN WAS THE ONLY THING OUTSIDE MY EXPECTATIONS THOUGH

I WAS JUST DOING SOME EXERCISE FOR MY EYEBALLS, SPIKYYYY!!

YOU'RE SO RED THAT IT'S PAINFUL-LY BRIGHT IN MY EYES

DID YOU FALL FOR ME TOO, MIDOU-SUJI ?!

WE'RE BEFORE THE GOAL!! WILLPOWER!! FULL STRENGTH!! FLASHY!! MY FLASHINESS CHARMS EVEN THE GUYS!!

GROSS!!

URU-
AAAAH

I'M NOT GONNA JUST GET IN YOUR WAY, I'M GONNA WIN!!

FOR JUST HOW LONG TO DO INTEND TO GET IN THE WAY OF MY VICTORY?!

YOU'RE THE ONE IN MY WAY!!

IDIOT!!

YOU'RE IN MY WAY, MOVE!

WHAT'S WITH THOSE TWO?

WHAT? CRASHING INTO EACH OTHER BEFORE THE GOAL?!

IT'S KINDA INCREDIBLE !!

!!

WHILE I'VE BEEN RIDING AGAINST YOU LIKE THIS, IT MADE ME THINK

IF MAYBE, WE HAD BEEN TOGETHER ON THE SAME TEAM

IT MIGHT BE A STRANGE THING TO SAY AT A TIME LIKE THIS

IN-CRED-IBLE

AS EXPECTED, HUH, AS EXPECTED

YOU'RE PRETTY STRONG

IF YOU HAD, BY SOME CHANCE, BEEN IN KANSAI, AND ENTERED KYOTO FUSHIMI WITH ME

WE MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE "BEST OF FRIENDS"

I'M SURE YOU THOUGHT IT TOO

DIDN'T YOU?

THE TWO OF US

RIGHT ?

NARUKO-KUN

I WAS ALWAYS ... THINKING THAT

IS THAT WHERE YOUR LITTLE MADE-UP STORY ENDS, MIDOUSU-JI?

SO THIS TIME, YOUR BLUFF IS INDIRECTLY HINTING AT A SOFTER MOOD, RIGHT ON THE BRINK OF THE GOAL, AND CUTTING THROUGH YOUR OPPONENT'S AIR OF TENSION, HUH!!

AS IF I'D FALL FOR THAT!! IDIOT!!

YOU NEVER THOUGHT THAT, RIGHT?

THIS "BEST OF FRIENDS" THING!!

FOR THE SAKE OF VICTORY, YOU REALLY WILL EXHAUST EVERY MEANS AVAILABLE!!

YOU REALLY ARE SOMETHING, MIDOUSUJI

PUPUPU!

THAT'S RIGHT!

I DIDN'T THINK ABOUT THAT AT ALL

ゴレ ゴレ

ゴレ

NOT EVEN FOR A SINGLE MILLIMETER!

SOHOKU'S NARUKO IS UP IN FRONT!!

380M!!

370M!!

THE LEADERS ARE 400M AWAY FROM CROSSING THROUGH THE GOAL OF THE FIRST DAY!!

400M LEFT!!

LAST 400m

Go Go

SOHOU - KUUU !!

KYO-FUSHI!!

!!

WELL IN THAT CASE, IT CAN'T BE HELPED

PU PU PU

YOU DON'T INTEND TO GIVE IN AT ALL

I'LL JUST HAVE TO FLY

BEFORE THE GOAL

SOHOKU

PINARELLO

YOUR TRUE TRUMP CARD!!

SHALL I FLY?

"FLY"

SO YOU FINALLY FEEL LIKE BRINGING IT OUT, MIDOU-SUJI!

THE TRAILING GROUP ALSO CROSSED THE 400M LINE!!

GOOOO, HAK-OGA-KUUU!!

ZUAAAAAH !!

BUT

BUT YOU SEE

THE GAP ISN'T GONNA CLOSE SO EASILY!!

I'M CHASING THEM AT FULL POWER, BUT OBVIOUSLY, THE GUYS UP FRONT ARE RIDING AT FULL POWER TOO!!

IT'S NOT SOMETHING I CAN'T DO!!

OOOOOH !!

IT MAY NOT BE EASY

ZUOO OOOH !!

YOU, ON THAT DAY

IS THAT WHAT HAPPENED, NARUKO!!

NO ONE IN PARTICULAR

WHO DID YOU RACE AGAINST?

WELL, IT'S NO ONE YOU KNOW

WHEN YOU CAME BACK FROM OSAKA

YOU SAID YOU FOUGHT AGAINST SOMEONE

THAT OPPONENT, WAS HE

WAS HE MIDOUSUJI ?!

THAT'S WHY YOU NEVER TOOK YOUR EYES OFF HIM, DESPITE ALL THE CONFUSION BACK THERE AND REACTED QUICKLY ENOUGH TO CHASE AFTER HIM

NARUKO !!

GEEZ

YOU CAN'T KEEP IMPORTANT STUFF LIKE THAT TO YOURSELF

AND RIGHT NOW; YOU'RE EVEN WITH HIM AND HEADING TOWARDS THE GOAL

I'M THE ONE THAT TOLD YOU TO DO IT!!

WELL, I'M THE ONE THAT DECIDED TO DO IT!!

GO, NARUKO

SO THAT'S WHAT THAT WAS ABOUT

!!

HO

IF, BY SOME CHANCE, THIS TRAILING GROUP MANAGES TO CATCH UP RIGHT BEFORE THE GOAL

7"

I WILL

GIVE YOUR BACK A PUSH FORWARD

WITH ALL MY MIGHT

IS YOU, NARUKO !!

TODAY'S ACE

TAKE THE GOAL!!

THEY'RE GETTING CLOSER!!

THE TRAILING GROUP!!

THEY'RE ON THE EDGE!! EVEN THOUGH IT'S RIGHT BEFORE THEIR EYES, THEY LOOK LIKE THEY'RE IN PAIN

THERE'S ALREADY NO DISTANCE LEFT!!

OR WILL THEY CATCH UP?!

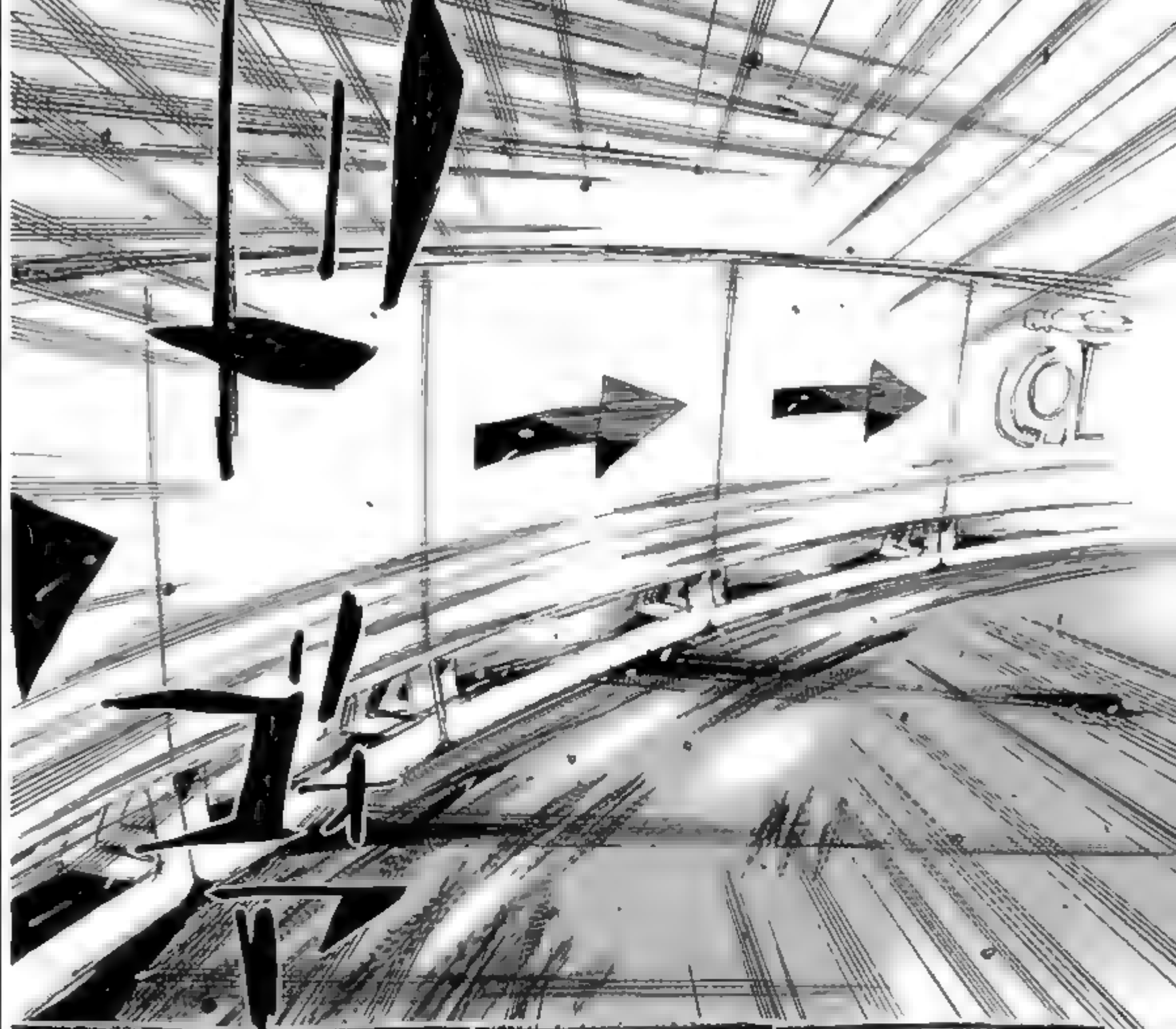
WILL THEY ESCAPE?

IF IT HAD STAYED A STRAIGHT LINE, LIKE THIS, THEY MIGHT HAVE CAUGHT UP

THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU THAT YOU WEREN'T GONNA CATCH UP, RIGHTTT?!

300M LEFT!!

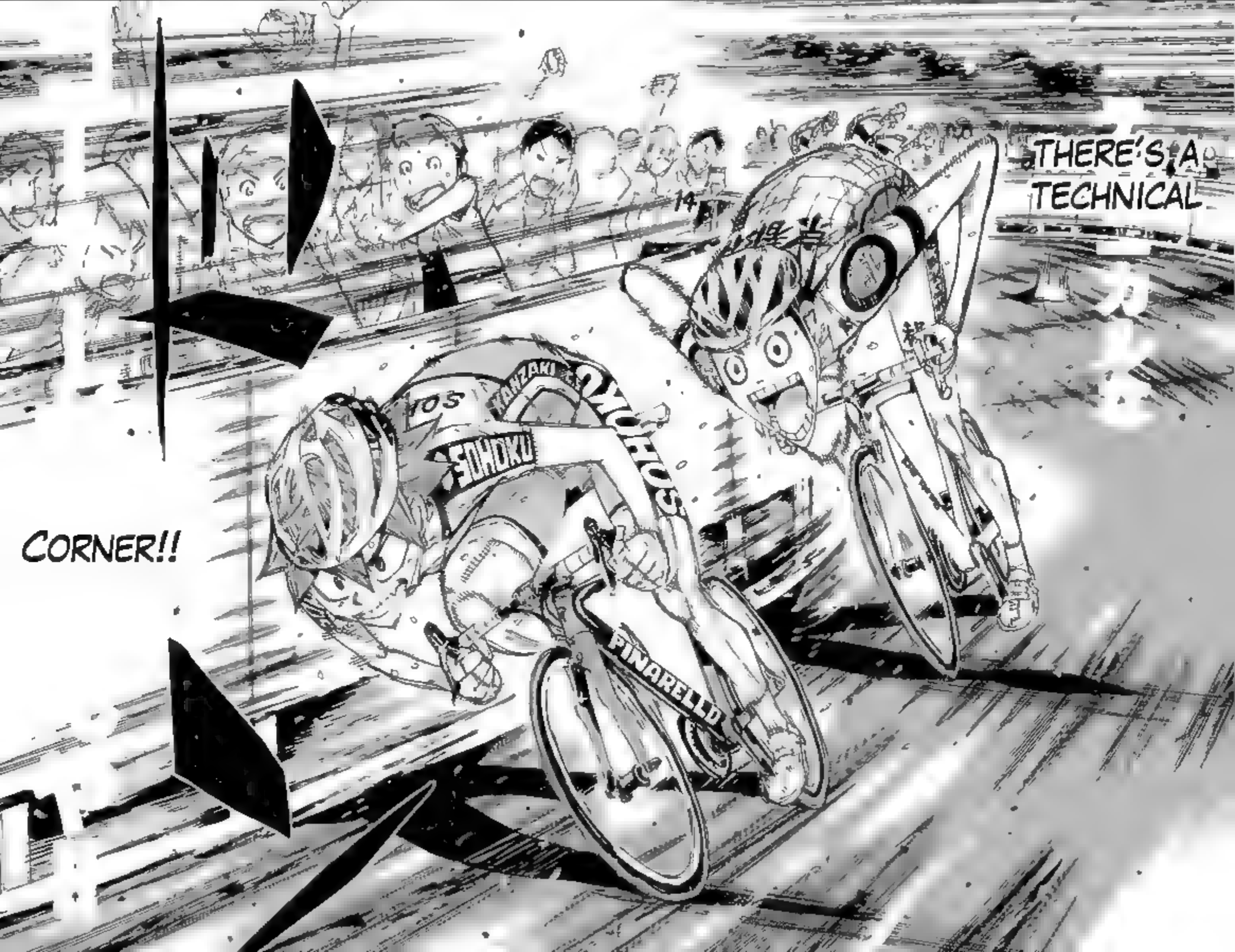
LAST 300m


GO!

BUT THE GOAL ON THE FIRST DAY, IN ORDER TO PULL THE GOAL GATE IN FROM NATIONAL ROUTE 120 ONTO THE WIDE PARKING LOT

GA!
学園

GO!


THERE'S A TECHNICAL
14
KANZAKI
SOHOKU
FINAL LAP
CORNER!!

TWO OF THEM!!

I CAN SEE IT

I TOOK THE LEAD AT THE CORNER!!

ORU-AAAAAH

THE GOAL GATE!!

WELL THEN

SHALL I FLY?

!!

HERE?!

HEY, WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF A CORNER!!

ゴキ

ゴキ

ゴキ

SHUT UP AND KEEP UP, TAKUTO!!

THEY ENTERED THE CORNER FIRST!!

RIGHT

TAKUTO, IT'S JUST AS YOU SAID

WE'RE GOING IN AT FULL POWER

WE, HAKOGAKU, HAVE NOTHING ELSE LEFT TO LOSE

THAT THERE WERE TWO OF THEM

IT'S A GOOD THING, THAT THESE CORNERS BEFORE THE GOAL

I'LL SHOW IT TO YOU

MY BARELY-SAFE CORNERING!!

WHY LOOK FOR FANFIC WHEN SENSEI WRITES HIS OWN AUS. AMAZING

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